

# THE ATHENÆUM

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LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1870.

## LITERATURE

*Chips from a German Workshop.* By F. Max Müller, M.A. Vol. III.—*Essays on Literature, Biography, and Antiquities.* (Longmans & Co.)

MR. Max Müller has lived so long in England that he may be taken to have gone through a complete process of literary naturalization, and the products of his German workshop might, in some cases, be attributed to English manufacturers. Even when the subject of the papers in this volume is purely German, the treatment is independent. We do not mean to say that Mr. Max Müller shows any lack of sympathy with the land which gave him birth: such an accusation would be not merely unjust, but ludicrous. Nor can it be said that the sympathy he shows is common to all those writers who have boasted of being interpreters between the German and the English mind, and who, while highly esteeming German thought and literature, have sometimes been the severest censors of German manners and customs. It is true that Mr. Max Müller's residence at Oxford has made him intolerant of some of those habits which he might have shared if he had been a Professor at Bonn or Heidelberg. What he says of Dr. Mommsen's 'History of Rome' may be applied to his own Essays:—"The fact that it is readable and has become a popular book has excited the wrath of many critics, who evidently consider it beneath the dignity of a learned professor that he should digest his knowledge, and give to the world, not all and everything he has accumulated in his notebooks, but only what he considers really important and worth knowing." We hope it is not disrespectful to Mr. Max Müller to surmise that if he had occupied a chair at a German University he might have attained the rank of the first living orientalist, and the greatest possible authority on all philological questions: but his books would have been inaccessible to all save scholars; and had he written popular essays they would have been still more unreadable.

Fortunately, however, we are saved from such a calamity. Mr. Max Müller shows in this volume, as in many of his former works, that he can treat the abstrusest topics in such a style as to attract the general reader. We may take as an instance the paper headed 'Are there Jews in Cornwall?' The fact that old smelting-houses are called Jews' houses, and that the town opposite St. Michael's Mount is called either Marazion (which means the bitterness of Zion) or Market Jew, has been thought to prove conclusively that at some time or other the Jews migrated to Cornwall, or worked as slaves in Cornish mines. The gradual steps by which Mr. Max Müller traces back the name of the town to certain Cornish words, meaning "the markets," and the Jews' houses to the name of a Cornish saint, are wonderfully subtle; and though the argument, of course, will not convince everybody, it is an intellectual treat to follow the process. While Mr. Max Müller is on the subject of the changes which these names have undergone, he brings forward a curious theory:—

"There is in most languages, but more particularly in those which are losing their consciousness or their vitality, what, by a name borrowed from

geology, may be called a *metamorphic process*. It consists chiefly in this, that words, as they cease to be properly understood, are slightly changed, generally with the object of imparting to them once more an intelligible meaning. This new meaning is mostly a mistaken one, yet it is not only readily accepted, but the word in its new dress and with its new character is frequently made to support facts or fictions which could be supported by no other evidence. Who does not believe that *sweetheart* has something to do with *heart*? Yet it was originally formed like *drunk-ard*, *dull-ard*, and *nigg-ard*; and poets, not grammarians, are responsible for the mischief it may have done under its plausible disguise. By the same process, *shamefast*, formed like *steadfast*, and still properly spelt by Chaucer and in the early editions of the Authorized Version of the Bible, has long become *shamefaced*, bringing before us the blushing roses of a lovely face. The *Vikings*, mere pirates from the *viks* or creeks of Scandinavia, have, by the same process, been raised to the dignity of kings; just as *coat cards*—the king, and queen, and knave in their gorgeous gowns—were exalted into *court cards*."

Though Mr. Max Müller has hitherto shown a preference for subjects in which he has no rival, most of the essays in the present volume take us into the more frequented field of general literature. The papers on German literature, Schiller, Wilhelm Müller, Chasot, Bacon in Germany, Hentzner's travels, and Bunsen, are popular in the widest sense. It is indeed characteristic of the writer that the first of them goes with some minuteness of detail into the works of those early German authors whom most of us are content to take upon trust. We have all heard of the *Nibelungenlied*, though perhaps few have read it, but that is the extreme limit of our memory. To Mr. Max Müller, however, the *Nibelungenlied* is comparatively modern. It only dates from the thirteenth century, while he goes back to the fourth for the beginnings of German literature. Such research makes us fear that the names which really represent German literature will be neglected. A man who has waded through all the semi-barbarous dialects of the dark ages must be so hopelessly obfuscated that when he comes to the light he cannot see. But we find Mr. Max Müller's faculties sharpened and his sympathies increased by the enlargement of his knowledge. He is the better able to appreciate Lessing, Goethe, and Schiller from his careful study of those who went before them. His whole essay on Schiller shows a modern tone and taste for which we were hardly prepared. The paper on Wilhelm Müller again is eminently popular. It is true that here Mr. Max Müller is writing, as he confesses with charming freedom, of his own father, but there is nothing purely filial in his appreciation. Indeed, if there was anything in this essay to call for an expression of dissent, it would be the exceptional praise given to German drinking-songs. "There is," says Mr. Max Müller, "something especially German in all drinking-songs, and no other nation has held its wine in such honour. Can one imagine English poems on port and sherry,—or has a Frenchman much to tell us of his Bordeaux, or even of his Burgundy? The reason that the poetry of wine is unknown in England and France is, that in these countries people know nothing of what lends its poetry to wine, namely, the joyous consciousness of mutual pleasure, the outpouring of hearts, the feeling of common brotherhood, which make learned professors and divines, generals and ministers,

men once more at the sound of the ringing glasses." We leave the theory to be dealt with by philosophers, but what is the fact? Were Anacreon and Horace Germans, or did not they hold wine in honour? Whether it be possible or not for Mr. Max Müller to imagine English poems on port and sherry, we should have thought he must have heard of the plump head waiter at the Cock, and must have remembered that sack was the favourite of our Elizabethan poets. A collection of drinking-songs from Herrick down to Moore and Capt. Morris would show that the English are too catholic in their tastes to be restricted to the wines which Mr. Max Müller considers their national property. At the present moment it may not be safe to argue the French part of the question with Mr. Max Müller: but if we look at Italy, Redi's 'Bacco in Toscana' and his praise of Montepulciano can bear comparison with any German poem.

We may seem to be taking an unfair advantage of Mr. Max Müller in singling out this weak place in his armour. Let us make amends by allowing that at all other points he is invulnerable. His noble essay on Bunsen fitly repays the kindness shown by the former Prussian ambassador in London to the unknown youth beginning his career. Mr. Max Müller says that he hesitated for some time before publishing the letters written to him by Bunsen from 1848 to 1859, but every reader of the book will be glad that such doubts were overcome. Not only do the letters bear witness to Bunsen's indefatigable industry, as well as to the higher qualities of which Mr. Max Müller has spoken, but they also throw light on many of the circumstances of the time, and illustrate Mr. Max Müller's own essays. We cannot help connecting the generous review of Kuno Fischer's Bacon with the letter in which Bunsen commends the book and its writer to the notice of his correspondent. In some other places notes of elucidation are needed. We are amused to meet with a statement in one of Bunsen's letters, that "you have abused me well, or allowed me to be well abused, in your *Saturday Review*, which passes as yours and Kingsley's mouth-piece. If it were criticism, however mistaken, but why personal aspersions?" Yet how foreign such a style of writing is to Mr. Max Müller's sympathies appears from one of the essays which has already been mentioned. "If one reads most of our critical writings," he says, "it would almost appear as if the chief duty of the reviewer were to find out the weak points and faults of every work of Art. Nothing has so injured the art of criticism as this prejudice. A critic is a judge: but a judge, though he is no advocate, should also be no prosecutor. The weak points of any work of Art betray themselves only too soon, but in order to discover its beauties not only a sharp but an experienced eye is needed, and love and sympathy are necessary above anything else." It is in this spirit that Mr. Max Müller's critical essays are written. While he enters warmly into the praise of Bunsen, saying that his life will bear comparison with that of a saint, and dwelling on the zeal and love of learning which made a hard-worked diplomatist get up at five in the morning in order to devote four hours to study, he brings many other characters to our knowledge. His sketch of Joinville throws a vivid light on the age of

St. Louis. His sketch of Chasot, beginning with a most felicitous metaphor, shows us one side of Frederick the Great's character which has escaped the notice of his eulogists. The paper on 'Hentzner's Travels' gives us quaint glimpses of English life during the reign of Elizabeth, as seen by a German tourist. If we end our list here, it is not from want of material. Several essays still remain which have not been even named, but which ought not to be passed over. Yet instead of taking up our few remaining lines with them, we will add that the contrast presented by Mr. Max Müller, in his first essay, between the Emperor, the Pope and Luther, is one of the grandest passages in the whole book, significant of the spirit in which the author looks back upon the events of his country's history, and of the power with which he can reproduce them.

*Catalogue of Prints and Drawings in the British Museum. Division I.—Political and Personal Satires. Vol. I., 1320 to April 11, 1689. (Printed by order of the Trustees.)*

Nor very long ago we mentioned, as a model for works of its kind, the Catalogue of the Hebrew books in the British Museum, drawn up for the trustees of that institution by Mr. Zedner. We have now before us the first volume of the catalogue of another branch of our national collection—that of Prints and Drawings; and we are glad to see that it also is worthy of the noble institution, the vast riches of which it serves to illustrate. If the volumes which are about to appear are as full of valuable material as that which has already been issued, the complete work will be a perfect treasure-house—at all events, in the eyes of historical students.

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The first instalment of the Catalogue, which "has been prepared, under the direction and supervision of the keeper of the prints and drawings (Mr. G. W. Reid), by Mr. Frederic George Stephens," is so bulky, comprising 752 pages of larger than ordinary size, and smaller than usual type, that there is no chance of being able to do anything like full justice to its contents in a brief notice. We will not attempt then to do so, but will confine our efforts to picking out of its rich stores a few chance samples of its varied contents. Opening at p. 41, we light upon a full account of 'Thomas Coryat's Shoes,' the same in which the author of the charming 'Crudities' travelled nine hundred miles over Europe on foot, and which, on his return home, he hung up in Odcombe Church, where they were preserved for nearly a century, till 1702. At p. 79 we find a complete description of the quaint frontispiece to Captain Shandon's favourite "guide, philosopher, and friend," Burton's 'Anatomy of Melancholy.' On the same page, also, is an account of a broadside with a woodcut, representing five Irish Soldiers, armed for the most part with bows and arrows. These Irish, it seems, were short in stature and swarthy like gipsies; their clothes and caps were almost entirely black,

their shirts all being of a dark colour, and their shoes were made of the bark of trees. When they were hungry, they dug roots out of the earth, with which they were easily appeased. At p. 185, we come upon a nest of references to caricatures of various sectaries, some of whom were wont to assemble "upon Hye-gate and Hamsted-hills and such-like places," and among whom were the "Familiists," who belonged to the "Family of Love," founded by Hewick [Henryk ?] Nicolaes," and from whom sprang the "Georgians," called after David George of Delft, who ought to have risen again three years after death, and restored the kingdom of Israel, but did not—the "Thraskites," who derived their name from their founder, John Thrask, who "endeavoured to revise the Jewish Sabbath," and got pilloried for his pains—the "Brownists," who held aloof from the Established Church even after their founder, Robert Brown, had returned to it from his gravel-pit near Islington—the "Adamites," who discarded clothes, and "had wont usually to meete in hot-houses or stoves, or in such places where they might have the conveniency of artificiall heate"—and many other sects of various kinds.

On p. 192 begins a description of a number of tracts and broadsides printed in 1641, in reference to the Monopolists of the time, especially Alderman Abel the "Raiser of Sack," who began life as a vintner's apprentice, in which capacity he was "as industrious to be throwne downe stairs by a gentleman or take a broken pate (so his wounds might be curable within the verge of a shilling, or some such sum) as any other of his fellows could be," then drove a thriving trade at the "Ship" in Old Fish Street, where his Friday-night suppers became famous, and eventually waxed wealthy, and was detested as the holder of "a Monopolizing Patent for the office of wine," which was "projected and surreptitiously obtained betwixt his Cozen Kilvert and himselfe." In consequence of this monopoly, it seems, wine became so dear that "the good fellows in every Coast and Quarter of the Land, especially within the circuit of this City, mourned most solemnly in small-beere, and were not able to climbe to the Olimpus of Old Sherry or Moderne Canary," a sad change from the time when it was possible to say "Wine is so cheape that the poorest Mechanicks drinke it." Such patentees as the alderman became so obnoxious at last, that they were swept away by the Parliament, but not before they

Like vermin o'er this land did crawl,  
And grew so rich, they gained the devil and all.

At page 417 we light upon some interesting details about Richard Brandon, the executioner who beheaded Charles the First, extracted from two tracts, professing to give his confession and "Last Will and Testament," and the well-known broadside, headed, 'A Dialogue: or, A Dispute betwene the late Hangman and Death.' The latter contains a woodcut, which represents "the executioner immediately after cutting off the head of Charles the First: the body of the king kneeling before the block, two men standing on our right, on the scaffold—guards behind and before." According to the tracts, he had "claimed the gallows by inheritance," and in order "to make himself proficient in his craft, he beheaded dogs and cats, and others he quartered and hanged." When he had killed the king, "he had 30 pounds for his

pains, all paid in half-crowns, within an hour after the blow was given"; and also "an orange stuck full of cloves, and a handkercher out of the king's pocket, so soon as he was carried off from the scaffold, for which orange he was proffered 20 shillings by a gentleman in Whitehall, but refused the same, and afterwards sold it for 10 shillings in Rosemary Lane." Afterwards he, like "one Tench, a drum-maker, in Houndsditch, that provided roapes, pullies, and hookes (in case the king resisted) to compell and force him down to the block," was "grievously troubled with a devil."

The Severall Proceedings of our Famous Country-man, Mr. William Lilly, the Star-gazer, form the subject of the woodcuts described on pages 461-463, referring to the astrologer's prediction that an eclipse of terrific significance and dreadful effect would take place on "Black Monday, or March 29, 1652," to be followed by "the fall of some famous Kings or Princes, and men in Authority, Malice, Hatred, Uncharitableness, cruell Wars and Bloodshed, House-burnings, great Robberies, Thefts, Plunderings and Pillaging, Rapes, Depopulation, Violent and unexpected Deaths, Famine, Plague, &c." The believers in Lilly, the Zadkiel of those days, who is supposed to have sat for the portrait of Sidrophel, in Hudibras, were naturally enraged at his prediction not having come true, especially those who, like the sufferers mentioned in 'The Astrologer's Bugg-Beaure,' even if they did not hang themselves, as some are said to have done, at all events would not open their shops, but "lay abed till 2 of the clock in the afternoone fasting, because they durst not rise out of their beds to eat their dinners;" or, still worse, "tooke Medicines, Pills, and Antidotes, which was administered unto them by a supposed outlandish doctor, which he had set bills for in severall places, calling his Medicines an Antidote against the terrible Eclipses of the Sun; so he got money, and they went away as wise as wood cockes."

At p. 516 are mentioned two woodcuts that adorn a tract, which speaks the very language used by the "Medium," and other spiritualist organs of the day. It is styled 'A Dialogue betwixt the Ghosts of Charles the First, late King of England, and Oliver, the late Usurping Protector;' and the text "represents the indignation of Charles's ghost on meeting that of the Protector, and the entreaties of the latter for pardon, with a confession of his sins against the king and his family: in return, the spirit of Charles rates that of the Protector, which further describes its miserable condition, 'feels pains coming on,' and vanishes."

The last entry in the Catalogue, No. 1235, is described as "a Dutch broadside, referring to the state of England, and the relations of that country with France, in 1689." It forms one of a very rich collection of Dutch caricatures, drawn and engraved with great excellence, and so full of allusions to passing events that their full elucidation would almost be a history of the times in itself. They deserve a special and lengthy notice; but at present all we can do is to extract the description given by the Catalogue of the one we have just mentioned. It will suffice to show how carefully the Catalogue has been compiled:—

"An etching, representing Arlequin Deodat (Louis XIV.) seated in the Fool's Chair ('Stoel voor groote Gecken') holding the Pope and Emperor,



as puppets, in his arms; Pantagion (the Dauphin) mounted on a hobby-horse, approaches him, kneels and exclaims '*Courage Povre Papa!*' The Knightly Prelate, or Prince William of Furstenberg, is cast from his seat on the back of the French bear: the tonsured head of the Jesuit satyr is roughly shaved by the English barber, who, with another Englishman, restrains him, while a third assails him with a clyster in the rear. 'St. Jacob' (January 11) followed by Father Petre and others, flies to his ships, while the Prince of Orange (William III.) mounted on a lion, and sword in hand, rushes across the plain. The Jesuit conjuror, who has a satchel slung around his neck, and marked 'Hokus Pokus,' addresses Louis and offers a rosary, &c. The other choristers are the Norwegians, Turk, 'Tekly' (Tököly), the 'stiff-necked' Irishman who laments the turn affairs have taken. Below the engraving are three columns of Dutch verse, comprising a conversation of the above-named personages, satirizing the failure of the attempts of James II. to recover the crown in Ireland, and ridiculing Louis XIV. for having assisted him."

#### *An Original Collection of Extant Epitaphs.*

Gathered by a Commercial in Spare Moments.  
(Published by request, F. Maiben.)

THERE was a time when the "Commercial Room" in a country hotel was sacred ground, on which profane feet, which properly belonged to the Coffee Room, dared not intrude. The breakfasts in the two rooms differed as much as Abundance and Famine differ: the dinners for Commercials were dinners for Gargantua; those in the Coffee Room were barely sufficient to provoke a stomach to take upon itself the trouble of a little indigestion. The Coffee Room was nasty; the Marsala stood for Sherry; but in the Commercial Room it was "wine." On that head the Commercials were not to be trifled with. They were the last men who went in steadily for Port Wine, and a good deal of it, after dinner; and the dinner-hour was 1 o'clock. In those days they dined and drank together. That the symposium now and then disturbed their business-brains was but natural. There is a story illustrating this fact. It shows us a "Commercial" making up his accounts in the evening, and finding himself, according to his addition, with some two thousand instead of about two hundred pounds, that day received. In his perplexity he gave his book to be conned by a steadier eye. "Jones, my boy," said the referee, after going through the figures, "it's all right; only, you have added up the year of the Lord!"

The chairman at those dinners was bound to drive the bottle as merrily as he drove his gig-horse. He was proud of both horse and gig, and there was much talk about nags and drags, more than of the condition of trade, over the wine. Collectively, the chairman addressed his fellows as "gentlemen"; individually, it was "Smith, my boy!" or some similar tender familiarity. If he was a good hand at a song, the chairman would "give," as it was called, a Bacchanalian ditty—"When Bibbo thought fit," or "Down among the dead men." If he were not "up" to singing, he would tell a story, or give a sentiment. The last was in honour of good liquor, like the song and the story. If the sentiment were a little too audacious, he would affect to derive it from a Yankee traveller. Or this chairman never could forget that Kentuckian at a Liverpool Temperance Meeting, who declared that he had read the Bible from kiver to kiver, and had never

found but one man in it who asked for water, and he was in hell! Then, what gallantries there were as the Commercial stepped into his gig of a morning! The landlady, if she were buxom, provoked his joyous compliments, and her daughters would half laugh and half blush, and shake their corkscrew curls at his free and easy homage. When fairly on his lofty gig-seat, and the hostler had let go his steed's head, the Commercial flung a saucy good-bye to the chambermaid, who was leaning and looking for it from an upper window; and then it was a standing joke for his more intimate brother-commercials to call after him, "Brown, I'll tell you wife"; and, if Brown was a wag, he would look round and ask, "Which of them?"

Those jolly fellows are all fossils now. There are no gigs; their place is ill supplied by the "train." Old traditions are kept up in one or two places, but, as a whole, the fast, rattling, tipping, and yet hard-working, commercial life has died out. Commercial gentlemen, as this book tells us, now have spare moments, and bagmen spend them, like Hervey, among the tombs. Round the table which used to ring with "We'll drown it in the bowl," epitaphs collected from churchyards during various journeys are circulated: all gents present take an interest in "afflictions sore." We can fancy the dinner-president urging the company to "take another epitaph." The fancy is not extravagant: the author's words authorize it:—

"He copied these epitaphs (he says) for his own amusement. From time to time he has shown them to his friends and acquaintances, and also to commercial and other visitors, at the houses where he has sojourned, and by many he has been urged to print. . . . He has at length yielded to these repeated requests."

In what spirit the request was made we will not inquire. We will confine ourselves to some samples of the not overflowing measure produced. In the first place, the epitaphs are genuine; secondly, they are not all worth the printing. Among what we may call the most "bumptious" of the defunct, are the Smiths. Of one Rebecca Smith, we are told that "her transition from earth to join the blood-bought throng, took place according to Eternal Destination," in 1843; and you are to understand that while "all that is mortal of Richard Smith, gent.," rests in Chichester Cathedral, "the immortal part" of the said "gent." "is gone to join its great original in Heaven." Widow Fallick is made to say of her departed husband, Michael,

A sudden death, a shocking sight to see,  
His best life-blood was sprinkled over she.  
The King immortal gave a sudden stroke,  
He heaved a sigh and a blood-vessel broke.

We commend to the notice of all interested in the centenarian theory that Phoebe Hessel lies at Brighton under tomb-stone warrant that she died "aged 108 years," in 1821, having been born in 1713. "She served many years as a private soldier in the 5th regiment of foot, and in the year 1745 fought under the command of the Duke of Cumberland at the Battle of Fontenoy." Of a good and faithful servant of another sort, we are told that her (Elizabeth Knight's) "disinterested attachment to the family in which she lived upwards of twenty-five years claims their particular regret," which shows what very singular people Elizabeth Knight waited on for a quarter of a century.

We may here notice that Stephen Dean exceeds even the Smiths in bumptiousness, for Stephen tells all who pass him in Chelmsford Churchyard, that "his enemy might write his epitaph, still would his spirit, based on rectitude, stand firm. Integrity's Colossus o'er Slander's eternal stream—beyond all reach." Is not this as nice a derangement of epitaphs as might satisfy Mrs. Malaprop herself? There is, at all events, better taste, though some singularity, in the epitaph at Market Harborough on "Samuel Turner, painter," of whom it is recorded that he was "born in a lone house," and that from being a shepherd he became an artist, and that "his works that are left will show his abilities,"—as most men's do, be they of what sort they may. Some of these inscriptions may be regarded as "long-winded." The most laconic is one which says, "Here lieth Richard Dent in his last tenement." Another savours of the doctrine of eternal death as the wages of sin, *ex. gra.*—

To expiate your sins make no delay,  
Lest unprepared you are summoned away,  
And like me be laid in a cold bed of clay.

Samuel Bates has a different opinion. Samuel describes himself as a "Soldier of Jesus," adding of his grave—

I'm billeted here by Death,  
And quartered to remain.  
When the last trumpet sounds  
I shall rise and march again.

In Carisbrooke Churchyard we come upon a couple who are satisfied with having "replenished the earth." James and Mary Flux, ages 80 and 74, make record of having left behind them ten children, fifty-nine grandchildren, and fifty-one great-grandchildren; and they express a hope that they may all meet again. In a few of these epitaphs, local ways of speech present themselves. Here is a Suffolk sample, which says—

Remember, man, whoe'er thou art,  
Not he who act the greatest part,  
But he who act the best will be  
The happiest man eternally.

In such wise Suffolk speaks up for works. Hampshire is less explicit, but quite as idiomatic, on the merits of Richard and Mary Harper: "They was what they was; what every good man and woman ought to be that was they." An illustration of the "little and good" comes in the person of Nannetta Stocker, who is described as "The smallest woman ever in this kingdom, possessed with every accomplishment, only thirty-three inches high." Nannetta, however, had her rival in excellence, if not in diminutiveness, in Theodosia Crawley, whose husband informs the world that she was not only "the most perfect of beings," but "faultless, matchless, without equal," and that her going to Heaven was only "the just reward of her virtues in this world." But this is hardly pitched in a higher tone than the epitaph on John Smith, one of a family who are never slow in saying the most pompous things of themselves from beneath the sod. Of this particular John we find that "Nature might hold him up and say to all the world, This was a Man"—which, in one sense, is true, and has a world of instruction under it. We may further notice that, taken altogether, the very oldest people are the most modest, as if experience had taught them the true value of self-assertion. Many of us remember Sake Deen Mahomed, who died, a score of years ago, at Brighton, at the age of 101. Of course his

epitaph could not make warrant of his Christian virtues; it simply says that he died, and does not even mention that he was the first to introduce shampooing-baths; yet this would have been as well worth recording as what is said of Tom Tipper, who invented the Tipper ale, once much drunk in Brighton and elsewhere; namely, that Tipper was a man "who dared do what few dare do, speak his mind." He was, moreover, skilled in the arts and sciences, a philosopher, physician, brewer of Stingo, "and knew immortal Hudibras by heart." Compared with this, how great is the modesty of the inscription at Northampton, over John Bailes: "He was above 126 years old"! His executors will not let John down at a lower figure. He may have been 150. Parr and Jenkins may have been mere lads to John Bailes. His chroniclers will not assert so much, but they are sure he "was above 126 years old, and had his hearing, sight, and memory to the last. He lived in three centuries, and was buried the 14th April, 1706." Here is a nut to crack for the centenarian controversialists. If the writing be true, young Bailes may have heard the salutes which welcomed Drake on his first return-voyage, in the reign of Elizabeth, and may have died of the thunders which announced the victory of Ramilies to the subjects of Queen Anne!

Of ill-spelt epitaphs there are more than enough. We believe that in most cases they represent provincial methods of pronunciation. This is the case in the "forbare" and "enclosed," and other words on Shakspeare's tomb. The Warwickshire sounds may be equally well heard, in another epitaph at Stratford-on-Avon, of the date of 1699:—

Death creeps About on hard,  
And Steals Abroad on Seen.  
Hur darts are Suding and her arous keen.  
Hur Strokes are deadly com they soon or late  
When being Strook Repentance is too Late.  
Death is Amintute ful of Suden Sorrow  
Then lue to day as thou mayest dy to Morow.

There are cases in which the Commercial has let good opportunity slip. He has a commonplace epitaph from outside a church at Bury St. Edmunds; but the collector has overlooked one inside, on Mr. Woodward, an attorney, among whose merits is reckoned the "clearness of his head." One of the most characteristic of epitaphs is that on Lillywhite the cricketer, at Highgate; but the editor of this book has not had eyes for the significance of the monument itself, which is a wicket and a ball, the latter so placed as to say, as plainly as if words said it, "Bowled out." Perhaps the nearest approach to simplicity, combined with earnestness, is achieved in the epitaph on the young wife of a noted comic singer at the Music Halls, before whose name stands the prefix "Great" on all the posters. It begins thus:—

Stay, passer-by, and let thy kindly glance  
Rest on the early grave of Jenny Vance;  
A tender mother, and a loving wife,  
Hers was a godly and a happy life, &c.

It is not "lofty," but it is simple and natural.

The difference between ancient and modern epitaphs is great. For the most part, the former expressed hope; the latter contain loud assurance of the certainty of enjoying endless bliss, if rare merits were a qualification. The epitaphs of the present day are, however, generally harmless. The "election" feeling on the part of some Christians seems to have been warmly adopted by "religious niggers,"

as most applicable to themselves. It is with these, perhaps, more of a doctrine of preference than of positive election; and it is amusingly illustrated in a specimen from a hymn given in an American paper, as sung at a "coloured gathering" in New York:—

We is nearer to the Lord  
Den de white fokes, and dey knows it!  
See, de glory-gate unbarred!  
Walk in, darkies, past de guard;  
Bet yer a dollar he won't close it.  
Walk in, darkies, troo de gate;  
Hark, de kullered angels holler;  
Go 'way, white fokes, ye're too late,  
We's de winnin' kuller! Wait,  
Till de trumwet blow to feller!

There is just a "pinch" of charity in this pride, whereas in many epitaphs there is as much pride, and no trace of charity. The spare moments of the collector of these samples might have produced more fruit, but he is not undeserving of thanks for what he has gathered.

#### *Incidents in the Life of Edward Wright.* By Edward Leach. (Hodder & Stoughton.)

SOME few years since a public character was encountered in one of our London streets by a man of business, who observed—"I know you; where's that ten shillings you cheated me of?" To which inquiry the public character, in language that cannot be said to be altogether devoid of irreverent tone, answered, "Well, Sir, as regards the ten shillings, I admit I had it; and you are perfectly right in your suspicions, for I did steal the pump. But, Sir, since then I wandered, in the providence of God, into Astley's Theatre, and there the Lord Jesus met with me." The person who had the good fortune to meet the Saviour and receive conversion at Astley's was Mr. Edward Wright, familiarly designated "Ned Wright" by the thieves and prostitutes of London and his other admirers. So much has been said of late in public journals about Ned Wright, his miraculous conversion to the Lord, and his hospitality to the criminals and outcasts whom he entertains with hot soup suppers, that it is almost needless to remark that the celebrated "Christian and Evangelist" was not long since a "criminal by profession"—a pickpocket, area-sneak, drunkard, convict, wife-beater, pugilist, burglar. Nor is it necessary for us to enumerate the principal atrocities by which he made himself known to the London police as an especially "dangerous character." Those who wish for a piquant narrative of the adventures of a London blackguard—a narrative which imparts romantic interest to a thief's career, and may perhaps confirm juvenile delinquents in the demoralizing impression, that, in spite of its obvious drawbacks, a criminal life affords more than an average share of pleasurable excitement—may have their desire in the earlier pages of Mr. Leach's memoir. On the present occasion, however, we will not linger over the more or less comical and, at the same time, painful particulars of Ned Wright's unregenerated existence, respecting which it is enough for us to record that it appears to have been even more revolting than the world imagines. Others may laugh over the ludicrous anecdotes with which Mr. Leach illustrates the precocious depravity of his pet evangelist, or enjoy the scene where the disgusting vagabond receives on his back three dozen lashes of the cat-o'-nine-tails, delivered by the arm of the

naval boatswain's mate, who proved himself worthy to act as official flagellator on board Her Majesty's ship, the *Alacrity*. There are readers, perhaps, who will derive a savage excitement from gloating over Mr. Leach's anatomical description of a barbarous, though deserved punishment, which, though it failed at the time to produce any beneficial effects on the culprit's hardened nature, has since been useful. "This awful scene," observes Mr. Leach, "in Ned's life has been to him, since he has become a preacher of the Gospel, pregnant with illustrations. In describing the agonies of our Lord, and the treatment He received when dying for a lost world, Ned has made an effective contrast, in a most reverent spirit, between the Innocent Sufferer and himself, the guilty transgressor." But though, in the hands of so cunning a moralist as Mr. Leach, the record of the transgressor's disgusting iniquities yields several highly edifying lessons, we will not draw special attention to them. On the contrary, being like Mr. Disraeli, on the side of the angels, and, like the convert himself, on the side of the saints, we prefer to speak of Ned Wright, as he has appeared to the faithful since his conversion.

The precise date of the evangelist's conversion is not mentioned in the biography; but, as he is still in his thirty-fifth year, he must have been a young man when he "wandered, in the providence of God, into Astley's Theatre," together with his wife, who accompanied him to the theatre, bearing in her eyes the marks of her husband's playfulness. Our hero was at the time under a cloud. The police were after him; he had been blown upon in various quarters; and in the hope to reinstate himself in the world's good opinion, he had put himself under training for a fight with Jack Connelly. By thrashing Jack he hoped to attract the attention of the highest pugilistic circles. "Unsuccessful in four different attempts at robbery, through the vigilance of the police, and being without money, he fixed his hopes upon a victory in this prize-fight." It is, therefore, certain that Ned went to Astley's in the blackest state of unregeneracy. Had he stopped short of the theatre, had he instead of entering the play-house crossed over the road for liquor, forbidden to pugilists under training, he would have returned to his dwelling, as he left it, an abominable ruffian. As it was, he quitted the revival-meeting held in the theatre, a penitent and an evangelist. It was all the work of an hour. On arriving once again at his humble lodging, he was something more than an awakened sinner—a penitent humbly bent on conquering his evil propensities: he was a chosen instrument, endowed with the knowledge and fortitude of a perfect Christian. The suddenness of his conversion occasioned his neighbours the liveliest astonishment, and gave his eldest child such a shock of surprise that the little fellow's nervous system, unable to accommodate itself to the new state of things, went out of life. There were also malignant observers who spoke with ironical bitterness about the seasonableness of a conversion, whose singularly opportune occurrence liberated the convert from his obligation to fight the redoubtable Jack Connelly. But Ned was armed against the ridicule of the impious, and he forthwith set to work to earn his living, as a distributor of tracts and preacher of the Gospel. The conversion



was followed by none of the struggles against old evil inclinations that usually elicit the spiritual energies of the newly-awakened sinner. Once after the night at Astley's he was tempted to thieve, but Satan was on that occasion so easily vanquished that the affair is scarcely worthy of the attention which it receives from the biographer. Of intoxicating liquors he has never taken a drop since he declined to fulfil his engagement with Jack Connelly: and though he for a brief period lapsed from perfect holiness into the unsatisfactory condition of the spiritually disposed smoker, he has long since broken his pipe and liberated himself from the enervating fascinations of the weed. For several weeks since his conversion he had not had pipe or whiff, when the desire for a smoke seized him late one evening on Blackfriars Bridge, as he returned from a religious meeting in North London to his quarters in the vicinity of the New Cut. "The result of his reasoning was a determination to have a smoke if he could find a tobacco-shop open between the bridge and his house: but if he could not find one, he would regard it as an intimation from God that it was His will he should leave off smoking." Whether the penitent burglar would have been less ready to seek divine guidance in so simple a manner, had he not been secretly confident of finding an open shop, we will not inquire. Anyhow, all the tobacconists' shops along the route were closed, and Ned arrived at his habitation pipeless and weedless. It was a cruel disappointment. After deliberating with himself for a minute at the threshold of the house in which he lodged, he determined to give Providence another chance. "The Divine will seemed against his desires; and, on the plea that he had not reached home, he went through the New Cut, where he knew there would be plenty of tobacco-shops open, and soon he found the longed-for tobacco and the charming long pipe with its sealing-wax end." For a short while he persisted in nicotine indulgence. But the aromatic fumes of the tobacco troubled his conscience, and, through special providential intervention, afflicted him with nausea. The weed that had soothed the sinner stirred the saint to sickness. Observing with mingled anxiety and horror Ned's new clay-pipe, Mrs. Wright "concluded that it was safer for her husband to abstain altogether from tobacco, and, in her anxiety for his welfare, she earnestly prayed that God would cause the pipe to turn his stomach, that he might be disgusted with it." The woman's prayer was answered. Scarcely had she risen from her knees, when the tobacco had the desired effect. "Ned," Mr. Leach assures us, "made the matter a subject for prayer, and abandoned the pipe altogether. Since that time his wife has had no cause to fear consequences which might follow smoking."

The convert's conduct and reasoning with respect to his longing for tobacco lead us to the consideration of one of the most conspicuous, and, we may add, most dangerous, results of his conversion. The night at Astley's Theatre made him, to use his own phrase, one of "God's sons"; and it appears that whatever is done by one of those peculiarly favoured "sons" may be regarded as a providential act. Wherever he goes, Ned Wright believes himself to be under the special personal charge of the Almighty, who is in a peculiar sense accountable for his conduct. When Ned hires a house,

at 60*l.* a year rent, though he has no reasonable prospect of being able to pay the landlord his quarterly dues, it is not the convert, but his Master, who takes the dwelling. When Ned's long clerical coat, of which he is very proud, begins to look "seedy," the Lord inspires a believer to give the Evangelist a new one. If he wishes to take a journey for which he has not the requisite funds, Ned does not go to work and earn money for the accomplishment of his righteous purpose, but he asks the Lord to put the cash for his railway fare and hotel bill in his hand; and in response the Hearer of fervent prayers moves one of the faithful to supply the penitent burglar with a sovereign or a ten-pound note. Since he has laboured for a heavenly Master, Mr. Edward Wright has been the tenant of a better house than he could have hoped to inhabit had he been nothing grander than a plain, honest working man; he has entertained the thieves and reprobates of London with liberal, though not sumptuous, hospitality; and in taking measures for the accomplishment of his philanthropic objects, he has systematically declined to make provision for the pecuniary liabilities which those measures may involve. In each of his undertakings he acts upon the assumption that, since the work is his Master's, it would be presumption in the servant to pay for it by his own labour. And hitherto his system of throwing upon Providence such responsibilities as ordinary mortals bear for themselves, has answered well. When the arrears of his rent must be reduced, a Divine instrument pacifies Ned's landlord with a cheque. It is the same with the gas and the water, the meat and the bread consumed in the Evangelist's establishment. He defrauds no man, because the hand of a liberal Master pays whatsoever he oweth. Are we wrong in suggesting that Mr. Wright's confidence in Providence is excessive; that his system is not calculated to promote the virtues of self-dependence and honesty in the man who adopts it; and that his doctrine is not more at variance with what we know of the Divine Government than likely to aggravate some of the evils which the evangelist, in whose sincerity and honesty we thoroughly believe, is most anxious to abate? A wrong notion of the Deity is better than no notion at all; and it is doubtless better that the dark, dull, sensual outcasts, amongst whom Ned works, should be roused by any means to a vivid sense of their dependence on an Omnipotent ruler, than that they should pass their lives in utter and unqualified Godlessness: but we are disposed to think that Ned Wright would not be a less serviceable missionary if he were taught by some judicious friend that the Almighty does not act towards his "sons" as though they were schoolboys, incapable of discharging the duties of adult men, and He were an able tutor appointed to provide immediately for their wants. Is it not more than possible that his very erroneous conception of the modes in which the Almighty deals with his creatures, and his perilous reliance on Providence to help him in every pecuniary strait, may have grievous results on the convert himself, and even upon his educated admirers?

We are all the more disposed to make this last suggestion, because sympathy for and admiration of his *protégé* appear to blind Mr. Leach to what is obviously reprehensible in

the man's doings, and to cause him at times to use words that we do not like. The book, written with Ned Wright's approval, and revised by him for the press, concludes with a very clear solicitation for money. "We hope," says the author, "that Mr. Wright may not fail to receive, in carrying on his good work, that measure of support which a Christian public is not loth to give to a deserving and philanthropic object. For his soup-suppers, relief agencies, and the rent of the buildings in which he carries on his labours, he is necessarily dependent on *public aid*, and feels at liberty to appeal for such a purpose, although for his own and his family's maintenance he is, as we have before said, supported by those who feel moved at various times to keep him from want." Under the circumstances of the case, the distinction between "*public aid*" and the assistance of "those who feel moved at various times to keep him from want" is far too fine for the vision of ordinary readers. Nor do we see how Mr. Leach, whose pen is controlled by the subject of the memoir, is justified in saying that Ned Wright "has never made the public acquainted with his *personal* needs, nor asked, *directly or indirectly*, for the means of his support." Whether this biography is a direct or an indirect petition for such means we will not say precisely. But it seems to be the one or the other.

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*The Witness of St. John to Christ, being the Boyle Lectures for 1870, &c.* By the Rev. S. Leathes, M.A. (Livingtons.)

ACCORDING to the will of the Hon. Robert Boyle, an annual salary of fifty pounds was provided for "some learned divine or preaching minister," who should be enjoined to deliver eight sermons in the year, in order to prove the Christian religion "against notorious infidels, viz., Atheists, Theists, Pagans, Jews, and Mahometans, not descending lower to any controversies that are among Christians themselves." The object of the present volume is to investigate the witness of St. John to Christ; but how that consists with the terms of the will it would be difficult to show. In fact, the purport of the founder's testament is virtually ignored in the book. This, however, is a matter for the trustees who appoint the lecturer, not for the public.

The literature connected with the Fourth Gospel since the appearance of Bretschneider's '*Probabilia*' impugning the authenticity, is very extensive. Baur and the Tübingen school put the question on a new footing; while the replies of Lücke, Bleek, and others brought out all the strength of the defenders. In consequence of the arguments advanced by Baur, Zeller, Hilgenfeld, &c., those who take the conservative side have felt themselves compelled to make various concessions; so that Weizsäcker, Ewald and Bunsen are not the thorough-going advocates of entire authenticity. It is well known that De Wette yielded much; and although the scholars just mentioned are more conservative than he, each has his own hypothesis to account for some peculiarities in the Gospel which seem to militate against its apostolic origin.

The controversy respecting the Johannine authorship has, as yet, excited much less attention in England. The late Mr. Tayler published a book against the authenticity, which

was followed by Dr. Davidson's 'Introduction to the New Testament,' where the same view was advocated. The pamphlets of Mr. Rowland and Mr. Orr took the opposite side; while a temperate little work by a layman and lawyer, published in 1868, maintained the view of Mr. Tayler. Mr. Leathes defends the old traditional theory with great earnestness and vigour. The Lectures, eight in number, show St. John a credible witness, the characteristics and essentials of his teaching, his appeal to the inward witness, the unity and authority of his writings, his message to the age, and his place in Holy Scripture. The Appendix treats of the Gospel's authorship and integrity, with the features common to the Johannine writings.

In judging of a volume like this, which is both theological and critical, we can scarcely do more than estimate the cogency and conclusiveness of the reasoning, which comes within our scope only as far as it consists of historic criticism. It presents an argument: how is the argument conducted? The author is right in keeping separate the question of Johannine authorship and that of intrinsic worth and verity in reference to the fourth Gospel, for by his doing so the whole subject is simplified; and he is also right in supposing that even should the opponents of the Gospel's authenticity prove their point, no deadly blow is struck at Christianity. Hence, Mr. Leathes properly endeavours to discuss the internal evidence and value of the Gospel independently of its author. To its contents he attributes primary importance, should it even be granted that they were written in the middle of the second century; though their importance is enhanced by apostolic authorship.

The lectures are of unequal merit. The first and third are good; the second, fourth, and sixth, weak. The fifth is inconclusive and one-sided. The seventh is a sermon advocating a narrow Gospel; the eighth is largely interspersed with erroneous interpretation. The author appears to be an impulsive man, who sets himself to uphold a system of extreme orthodoxy. He will make no concessions; but repeats a few ideas with a strength of assertion that shows they fill his mind and heart. Were his tone more moderate, his language more guarded, his mind more comprehensive, he would impress the reader more favourably. But he steers right on, conceding nothing; and, accordingly, he maintains that the whole of the last chapter of the Gospel was written by the person from whom the rest proceeded; that the story of the woman taken in adultery is an original part of the whole; and that the Apocalypse, as well as the three Epistles, had for their author the St. John of the Gospel. The traditional, he holds to be the real, author of these writings. As to the differences of thought, manner, and diction, he either smooths them away, or assumes that substantial similarity outweighs minor discrepancies.

The author's forte is preaching, not reasoning. In the former, dogmatic assertion finds full scope; while vehemence, repetition, and roughness of style, instead of being drawbacks, often enhance the impression which the orator seeks to make. In the latter, coolness and caution, intellectual ability, and keen perception are essential to success. The advocates of the traditional opinions which Mr. Leathes enforces will scarcely find additional weight imparted to their cause by the extreme ortho-

doxy of the volume. The conclusion he upholds may be true and certain; it is the heritage of ages; but it is not commended by the sort of reasoning with which it is worked out. The easy way in which the author disposes of weighty arguments is surprising. They do not disturb his apprehension: he settles them summarily to his own satisfaction. Thus he explains at once the very difficult words of Christ, in John x. 8—"All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers," though Tholuck confesses his inability to give a satisfactory interpretation of them. Most will prefer the modesty of the latter to the forced meaning imposed by the former. And although great critics, like Lücke, De Wette, and Ewald, cannot think that the author of the Apocalypse wrote the Gospel also, because their characteristic differences are so deep, Mr. Leathes gets over the difficulty by asserting that the phenomena of the former "must be altogether exceptional, not only to the prevailing character of Christian literature, but likewise to the prevailing character of the writer's own mind;" a repetition of Ebrard's idea. It is manifest that the Apocalypse is the most Judaic book in the New Testament; while the Gospel is anti-Judaic; yet our author discerns a substantive identity of thought in both. To the chiliasm of the Revelation he assigns little weight, because it is confined to one passage. The argument founded upon the paschal supper, which has given rise to a literature of its own, is misapprehended and confused. The true time of killing the passover in our Lord's day was between the ninth and eleventh hour, or towards sunset, near the close of the 14th Nisan; and the passover was eaten the same evening; yet Mr. Leathes asserts that "according to all the Evangelists, the Lord was crucified and buried on the fourteenth;" after which statement it would be superfluous to reason with him. His interpretation of the phrase, "between the two evenings," which denotes the point of time at which the passover lamb was to be killed, is decidedly erroneous, for Josephus teaches us that it was between the ninth and eleventh hour, i.e. towards sunset, near the close of the 14th Nisan. It cannot mean *an entire day*, which is contrary, not only to the interpretation of the Karaites, but also to that of the Pharisees and Rabbis.

At times our author's language is strange; for example, when he speaks of God as "moving in the labyrinth of human circumstance, just as we move in it"; of our Lord's existence as "the only self-existent life, and the world and all things that are therein are but the breath of his mouth, and as the shadow of the stile upon the dial-plate compared with the sun that casts it." "Weigh the aphorisms of Bacon against 'your Father which is in heaven,' and will they not kick the beam?" cries Mr. Leathes, with curious taste. But we forbear to quote more. The author is not competent to deal with the grave critical questions connected with the Johannine writings, so as to contribute to their resolution.

To the orthodox side he adds nothing of value, but rather impairs its strength by a perfunctory and jaunty logic. To the negative side he does no injury, because he neither apprehends clearly the force of the arguments advanced, nor reasons cogently against them. We regret this the more, because truth suffers

from the rash attempts of its friends to uphold it, however well-meaning those friends may be. It is desirable that some able champion of the fourth Gospel's authenticity should appear, for the question is most important; but he must be of a different stamp from Mr. Leathes, if he would fairly meet and confute opponents. Men like Baur and Zeller, not to speak of others, require combatants of a high order,—acute, learned, calm, logical; who would point out the weakness of the cause so plausibly argued by those German professors, as to lead away even Keim and Schenkel.

#### NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

*Sir Harry Hotspur of Humblethwaite.* By Anthony Trollope. (Hurst & Blackett.)

*On Credit.* By Lady Wood. 2 vols. (Chapman & Hall.)

*Rich and Rare.* By Lucius O'Brien Blake. 2 vols. (Newby.)

*Ralf Skirlaugh.* By Edward Peacock. 3 vols. (Chapman & Hall.)

MR. TROLLOPE'S descriptions of English life are as excellent as his sketches of Cesar's Campaigns are bad; and yet we really wish Mr. Trollope would not write so much. The number of his novels is astonishing, and it is even more remarkable that so very few of them are trashy: still we think Mr. Trollope would be wiser if he would bestow on a single novel the same time and energy that he has of late years devoted to four or five; he would hold a higher place in the estimation of the next generation than he will probably have if he continues to publish at his present rate. These remarks, however, are suggested rather by the consideration of the numerous books by Mr. Trollope which we have noticed within the past year or two, than by the shortcomings of 'Sir Harry Hotspur.' On the contrary, it appears to us decidedly more successful than any other of Mr. Trollope's shorter stories. The author has shown in this brilliant novelette that he can interest his readers by rapid and direct sketching; as well as by the minute detail and patient evolution of little traits of character that mark his larger works. Of course the book does not contain any creation that for a moment can be classed with Mrs. Proudie, Mr. Crawley or Mr. Palliser. The best characters—the Baronet and Lady Emily—are given only in outline; but no reader who begins to read this book is likely to lay it down until the last page is turned.

It is difficult to say with what object so commonplace and gloomy, not to say sordid, a story as 'On Credit' is brought before the public. It is probably too truthful a description of the ordinary miseries of a vicious and vulgar married couple. A young officer, whose handsome person is the tennement of an utterly worthless mind, in order to revenge himself upon an old lady who has refused him her elder daughter's hand, induces the younger sister to elope with him from a boarding-school. In due time, they return from India; he a coarse ruffianly debauchee, she a heartless and hardened coquette. This hopeful pair, accompanied by the usual train of children and servants, the worthy retinue of the vagabonds with whom they are connected, forthwith establish themselves at free quarters on the outraged and feeble-minded mother. How Bella eats and the



Major drinks, in what coarse language their coarse souls express themselves, how they lie and swindle, forge and rob, till delirium tremens and elopement relieve their miserable friends, form the basis of a painfully realistic narrative, unredeemed by a single spark of pathos. An Irishwoman, given to drink and strong language, but endowed with some rough fidelity, is perhaps the only character which stirs the reader to some languid interest. Mariana, too, though rather brusque and masculine, has a good deal of common sense and some womanly feeling, and is rewarded at the end of the book with the ripe affections of an elderly but tender-hearted banker. Bella, who has been selfish and false throughout, an adulteress at heart, and a forger in fact, is left to the misplaced adoration of a youth with thirty thousand a year! There is some talent shown in this novel, but it is talent misused.

'Rich and Rare' is one of the numerous tales of Anglo-Italian life which have lately flooded the book-market. It is, however, on the whole, rather superior to the usual run of similar works, although it becomes very disappointing towards the end. The disappointment arises from the circumstance that the commencement of the novel raises expectations of a most entertaining and well-constructed book, which are doomed not to be realized; for as the tale progresses, it becomes of a very commonplace nature. That the author has devoted some time to his work we are willing to believe, as there is evidence of care in some parts; but he falls into that fatal and common error of exaggeration, which destroys the reality of the story, and renders it comparatively uninteresting,—an error, by the way, which is one of the most common causes of unsuccessful novels. Particularly prominent as an illustration of a character spoilt by this failing, is Mrs. Lawrence, an individual that might have been described as a well-drawn bit of character but for the exaggeration, which compels us to call her an unnatural and revolting woman. There is a want, too, of artistic delicacy in the way the author tries to impress upon the reader the several natures of the actors in his story. His devices in this respect are so clumsy that he might just as well sum his characters in two or three words, without more ado, and then let them go through their parts. Thus, we should infinitely have preferred the author saying simply of Mrs. Myrtle, that she was a vulgar woman, instead of trying to convey this idea by such an expedient as allowing her to ask "*Was you long on the Pincio?*" for no woman who had been even a year in anything like third-rate society could possibly make such a silly grammatical mistake. Again, when the author wishes to explain how the hero, Mr. Hammond, discovered the Rev. Mr. Herbert, an educated clergyman of good birth, to be an Englishman, when the latter was seated in a *café* in France, he can think of no better than the following: "'French priest, I suppose,' thought Mr. Hammond. 'No; more like a German.' *Donnez-moi le bill,*" said the supposed French priest to the waiter." As to the story, although it is certainly not original, it is above the average of those found in novels; and there are several characters who tend to make the book readable. Altogether, 'Rich and Rare' has decided merit, coupled with many faults, and is more to be praised for

what it promises in the future than for what it performs in the present.

The tale related to us in 'Ralf Skirlaugh' is one that deals with the doings of the middle of the last century, and, as a matter of course, the troubles of the principal personages throughout the book chiefly arise from the Jacobite tendencies of themselves or their friends. It is carefully and forcibly written, and will, doubtless, prove a success. Though the title of the book is 'Ralf Skirlaugh,' yet the hero of the story is William Skirlaugh—at least, so it seems to us. This hero is a young lawyer, who, up to the time when the narrative opens, has been living with his uncle in London, and is then sent down into Lincolnshire to see his relative, Squire Ralf, the great man of his family, upon business matters; and whilst there he falls in love with Isabel, the beautiful daughter of the house. We may mention in passing, that this journey is very nicely told; and the picture of English life a century ago is presented in the most engaging manner, sufficient details being given to render it life-like, while the reader is not wearied by an outpouring of antiquarian lore. But to resume the story. The Squire is a Jacobite by feeling, and at an election-dinner he utters some of his opinions rather too freely, and, accordingly, in a day or two he receives notice of a warrant for his arrest being out against him; but he manages to escape in time. Knowing that this proceeds from spite on the part of Lord Carlton, a young reprobate, whose offer of marriage with Isabel has been scornfully refused by the father, William goes off to the influential Lord Burworth to obtain a pardon. In the mean time, taking advantage of the absence of father and lover, Lord Carlton's friends and servants carry off Isabel. William is soon informed of this, and he, with Bob Drury, an exceedingly well-drawn and original character, give chase, and, after some hard riding, come up with the ruffians, and rescue Isabel, just as they are about to take her in a boat to Holland. A little bit of improbability is here indulged in by the author, by making Isabel talk Low Dutch to the skipper of the boat, and tell him his name, much to the man's astonishment, as it might well be. A long explanation is given to account for this phenomenon, which, no doubt, is highly satisfactory in one sense, but still it leaves the reader slightly perplexed as to the necessity for the introduction of an event requiring such an elaborate explanation. We have not space to tell the tale completely, but it may be taken for granted that all ends well. There is, however, another extraordinary piece of improbability let loose upon his readers by the author, towards the end of the third volume, which needs especial mention. The hero, William, has a mystery surrounding him concerning his birth and parentage. He is supposed to be the son of the younger brother of the lawyer who brings him up, but at the end of the story he turns out to be the child of Lord Burworth and Henrietta Skirlaugh, the lawyer's sister, who has always passed for a spinster. We are told that a private marriage had taken place between the parents, and that after the child was born each parent supposed the other to be dead, and that, although they lived near one another, and had several common friends, each continued in a state of ignorance as to the other's existence for more than twenty years. This undoubtedly

requires a stretch of the imagination which a reader is not always willing to make, and we may mark it as an undoubted fault in the present work that the author should so recklessly and unnecessarily indulge in semi-miraculous events and describe impossible beings in the course of his narrative. Take the following quotation as an example. The villain is being described, and we are asked to realize as a human being a monster who delights in wickedness for the pure love of the thing, and commits crimes for no other reason than that he prefers doing so to living an ordinary life. Here is the account in full:—

"Brotherton had called Mackenzie an atheist. How little we know of human nature. This hardened criminal, who was prepared for any outrage that could furnish him with money to spend in the gratification of his vicious passions, had a far fuller and deeper realization of religion, that is, of the spirit world around us, and the future life beyond, than the wicked, but still in a sense conscientious, Presbyterian. To Mackenzie, the holiest and purest human feelings were nothing, or worse than nothing; a subject for jests of a nature that we cannot reproduce. He laid his plans of death for some, of life-long misery for others, with the deep deliberation of one to whom the atmosphere of sin was so habitual that he had got to take pleasure, such as hagiologists tell us the devils have, in outraging the purest and noblest feelings of his victims. So long had he pursued this course, so carefully, almost tenderly, had he watched and schooled the emotions of his own mind to fit it for his unholy work, that it is probable the pleasure he anticipated in handing over Marmaduke Morley to the gallows was in no slight degree heightened by dwelling on the agony which he knew would be thus caused to the pure-minded girl, whom he hated for the very reason that she was pure, innocent and beautiful. Such he was; we could add darker traits even than these if it were fitting to soil our pages with such morbid anatomy, and yet ere he retired to rest, he knelt and said the old Catholic prayers he had learned in infancy at his mother's knee, seemingly without any consciousness of the foul blasphemy he was adding to his other crimes."

Of course we can say nothing to this, if the author insists that such a man has ever existed or could possibly exist, but merely content ourselves with the remark that Mr. Mackenzie is what our friends across the Atlantic would probably call "a considerably tall criminal." We may state, that Mr. Peacock seems to hold strong views on most points in controversy at the present day, and does not shrink from advocating his opinions. He is, apparently, a thoroughly good Tory: none of your liberal Conservatives, but one who regards railways, radicals and reform bills with equal abhorrence. Even the old days of electioneering, with their corruptness, drunkenness and rioting, are to him infinitely superior to those of the present time, although he so far yields to modern taste as to suggest that they who prefer the present system may possibly have something to say for themselves:—

"None of the present generation can have seen an election dinner of the old time. The ancient manner of electing knights of the shires passed away in truth before the Reform Bill—when people began to think of politics as a science, to talk of political economy, the rights of labour, and the other fine phrases which have acted as solvents upon the staunch unreasoning Whiggism and Toryism of the days that are gone—the picturesque in elections was at an end. We are not about to lament over the change: it may be that it is better men should care for principles than for persons; that a party made up of thousands of ignorant and stupid units, with two or three clever men in each county or division acting as the brains and hands



of the lumbering mass, is a thing which it is wiser and nobler to sympathize with than the persons you have known, and whose kindness it may well be you have experienced from childhood."

We need scarcely say that in no way do we regard these little outbursts as blemishes on the work. On the contrary, there is a piquancy about them which chimes well with the ancient times of Jacobite Plots, and tends to make the book thoroughly consistent. 'Ralf Skirlaugh,' in short, deserves great praise.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

1870. *Kampf und Sieges Gedichte.* Von Julius Sturm. (Nutt.)

THE author of these verses tells us himself that Germany has produced as many war-songs as bayonets, but he thinks himself justified in adding to the number by the consideration that all this only shows the vigorous beats of the hearts of the German people. We can only say that if Herr Sturm's pieces are characteristic of the rest, it is lucky that the war is not a literary one, like that waged by the bards in 'Tannhäuser.' Herr Sturm's name is rather tempting to play upon, and it is difficult to keep back the suggestion that he should add to it the word *drang*. But that school, though it may have been violent, numbered some poets among it, and the present writer has nothing but its extravagance.

*The Analytical History of India, from the Earliest Times to the Abolition of the Honourable East India Company in 1858.* By Robert Sewell, Madras Civil Service. (Allen.)

MUCH careful labour has been expended on this volume; but, after perusing it, we cannot but see that it must have been more useful to the author than it is likely to be to others. Mr. Sewell has not sufficiently mastered his subject to write a history of India which would be really valuable to students. "In order to render it interesting to the general reader," he has added to the statement of facts a commentary, which would very often lead those not thoroughly versed in Indian history astray. Thus, at p. 168, after mentioning Bajji Rao's intention of seizing Sindhia, which he was too timid to carry out, he says, the Peshwa "contented himself by summoning Sindhia to court, and peremptorily commanding him to return to his own country." "Sindhia," he adds, "accordingly went north, accompanied by the undesired curses of all the people of Poonah." Will it be believed that Sindhia remained for two years at Poonah, and that the most important events, of which no notice is here taken, occurred in the interim! It is true that, thirteen pages further on, it is said that Sindhia remained at Poonah till he was called north by the wanton aggressions of Jeswant Rao Holkar. But even this gives no idea of the length of Sindhia's stay, and involves a fresh mistake. Jeswant Rao's attack on Sindhia, so far from being "a wanton aggression," was merely a retaliation for Sindhia's prior attack on him, in which Mulhar Rao, Jeswant's brother, was killed. Lastly, the curses of the people of Poonah were far from being undeserved, for Sindhia was quite aware of Sirji Rao Ghatke's design to plunder them. At p. 172 there is an account of the last Mysore war, in which there are many inaccuracies. General Harris had only 8,700 English soldiers, and not 20,000, as is here stated. In the next line, Tipu is called Rajah of Mysore; and we observe Mr. Sewell constantly applies the word *rajah* to Mohammedan princes—a very objectionable practice, especially in the case of Haidar and Tipu, there being a deposed Hindu Rajah of Mysore. At p. 173, it is said General Baird led the forlorn hope, instead of the storming division of 4,200 men; and there are other inaccuracies in the account of the capture of Seringapatam. At p. 179, it is said of Ahmed Khan Abdali, that, "retiring afterwards (after 1757) from Hindostan, where the treacherous battle of Panipat, in 1761, had shattered his forces, Ahmed Khan conquered Cabul." Nothing

can be more erroneous than this. Ahmed Khan was with Nadir Shah in 1747, when he was murdered in Khurasan. Ahmed marched straight upon Kandahar, and established his rule in Afghanistan thirteen years before the battle of Panipat. We give these as specimens of the inaccuracies which abound throughout the book. Sad work is made with the proper names. We read of Colonel Metcalfe, instead of Sir Charles, of Thimbakji Danglia and Khatmander. At p. 195, there is an expedition against Persian pirates, who turn out to be our old friends the Joasni Arabs, whose headquarters were certainly never, to our knowledge, at Mallia, in Gujerat! The Minerva was taken by them in 1809, not in 1810. The work ought to have been thoroughly revised before publication by some competent person.

*Il Nuovo Chi Si Aiuta Dio L'aiuta.* Vol. I. della Biblioteca per l'Educazione del Popolo. Di Gustavo Strafforello. (Unione Tipografico-Editrice, Torino, Napoli.)

A FEW years ago Massimo d'Azeglio said, "L'Italia è fatta: gli Italiani sono ancora da fare," and this is still the case—the Italians are sadly backward in commerce, industry, agriculture, and education. Recent statistics show that, in Italy, 17,000,000 of people are totally uneducated; that the commerce of Italy is inferior to that of Belgium; and that homicide and brigandage are greatly on the increase. Signor Strafforello, the translator of Mr. Smiles's 'Self-Help,' writes with a noble purpose, that of rousing the Italians from their lethargy. He is a severe censor of their vices, but he gives them simple remedies, which every man can apply for himself. Let them banish the mischievous phrase, *dolce far niente*, and follow the examples of Cavour, Canova, Tommaso Grossi, and A. Rossi in Italy, who, in modern times, have shown steadfast energy and perseverance. In Signor Strafforello the Italians have a very good guide, and his work forms a valuable companion to Signor Lessona's 'Volere è Potere.' The editors of the 'Library for the People' have begun well, and the titles of the volumes now in the press, 'The Phenomena of Industrial Life,' by the same author, and 'On Idleness in Italy,' by Carlo Lozzi, show that they are fully in earnest.

WE have on our table *Kuklos, an Experimental Investigation into the Relationship of certain Lines*, by J. Harris, Part I. (Trübner).—*The Bucolics, or Eclogues of Virgil*, translated by R. M. Millington, M.A. (Longmans).—*Notes to the Annals of Tacitus*, Vols. I. and II. (Parker).—*Milton's Samson Agonistes and Lycidas*, by the Rev. J. Hunter, M.A. (Longmans).—*Poetry for Beginners*, "Dr. Cornwell's Educational Series" (Simpkin).—*First Steps in English Literature*, by A. Gilman, A.M. (New York, Hurd & Houghton).—*Fragments of Fern Frons: a Collection of Poems*, by S. A. Wintle (Tasmania, Walch).—*The Transactions of the Malvern Naturalists' Field Club*, Part III. (Worcester, Holl & Darke).—*The Education and Status of Civil Engineers* (Institution of Civil Engineers).—*Rambles, Roamings and Recollections*, by J. Trotandot (Longmans).—*A Book of Golden Thoughts*, by H. Attwell (Macmillan).—*Help-Book for Travellers to the East*, by the Rev. J. Burns, D.D. (Cook).—*The New Pilgrim's Progress*, by Mark Twain (Hotten).—*Teachings from the Church's Year* (Parker).—*Bible Lore*, by the Rev. J. C. Gray (Hodder & Stoughton).—*Secular Annotations on Scripture Texts*, by F. Jacox (Hodder & Stoughton).—*Shakespeare's Antonius und Cleopatra neu bearbeitet und für die Bühne eingerichtet*, von F. A. Leo (Nutt).—and *Novalis Gedichte*, herausgegeben von Willibald Beyschlag (Nutt). Among new editions we have *Nature-Study*, by H. Dircks, LL.D. (Nimmo).—*The Gentle Life*, by J. H. Friswell (Low).—*Thoughts suggested by Bible Texts* (Longmans).—and *Theologische Ethik*, von Dr. R. Rothe, Vol. IV. (Nutt).

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

*Theology.*  
Abbott's Bible Lessons, Part 2, 'New Testament,' cr. 8vo. 2/  
Bloomfield's College and School Greek Testament, 12mo. 5/  
Book of Family Prayers, by E. G., Sacrist of Durham, 18mo. 2/

Boutell's Dictionary of the Bible, 8vo. 18/  
Boyes's Catechetical Hints and Helps, 18mo. 2/  
Bradford's The Bible Opened for Children, 12mo. 2/6 cl.  
Buchanan's The Jephtha and Baptist, tr. by A. Gibbs, 2/6 cl.  
Dennistoun's The Perishing Soul according to Scripture, 4/6 cl.  
Fleming's Rise and Fall of the Papacy, People's Ed. 12mo. 1/  
Hymns of the Church Militant, new edit. 12mo. 3/6 cl.  
Macdonald's (G.) The Miracles of Our Lord, cr. 8vo. 5/  
Newton's Bible Wonders, 12mo. 2/  
Papers on Church Doctrine concerning Eucharistic Presence, 6/  
Fike's The Metropolitan Tabernacle, 12mo. 2/6 cl.  
Proverbs of Solomon Classified and Arranged, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
Richardson's Gospel Unties, 12mo. 2/  
Rogers's Valour of Faith, or the Gospel in the Life of Gideon, 2/6  
Smeaton on the Atonement, Vol. 2, 'Sayings of Apostles,' 10 6cl.  
Stock's Lessons on the Life of Our Lord, Vol. 1, 8vo. 1/6 cl. swd.  
Walker's Notes of Open-Air Sermons, 12mo. 1/6 cl. limp.

#### Fine Art.

Raffaello (The) Gallery, imp. 4to. 42/  
Viardot's Wonders of European Art, illust. cr. 8vo. 12/6 cl.  
Wyatt's Lectures on Fine Art, 8vo. 10/6 cl.

#### Poetry.

Bell's Eng. Poets, Re-issue, Vol. 16, 'Jonson's Works,' 12mo. 1/3  
Changed Cross (The), and other Religious Poems, 16mo. 2/6 cl.

#### History.

Briffault's The Prisoner of Ham, 2nd edit. cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.  
Carlyle's Works, Lib. Edit. Vol. 23, 'Frederick the Gr., Vol. 3,' 9/  
Chapelle's (Count de la) The War of 1870, cr. 8vo. 4/6 cl.  
Grote's History of Greece, cheap edit. Vol. 13, cr. 8vo. 6/  
Sharpe's History of Egypt, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 18/  
Stubbs's Select Charters, from Earliest Times to Edward I. 8/6  
Taylor's Student's Manual of the History of India, cr. 8vo. 7/6

#### Geography.

Dall's Alaska and its Resources, roy. 8vo. 30/  
Philology.

Creak's Complete Dictionary to Caesar's Gallic War, cr. 8vo. 2/6  
Helfenstein's Comparative Grammar of Teutonic Languages, 18/  
Science.

Leroy's Intelligence and Perfectibility of Animals, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.  
Morris and Jones's Geology, 1st series, 12mo. 2/6 cl.  
Nature, Vol. 2, May to October, 1870, roy. 8vo. 10/6 cl.  
Rodwell's Dictionary of Science, 8vo. 18/  
Stewart's Lessons in Elementary Physics, 18mo. 4/6 cl.  
Waterton's Essays on Natural History, new edit. cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.

#### General Literature.

Aunt Mabel's Prayer, 12mo. 1/6 cl.  
Belgravia Annual for 1870, 8vo. 1/  
Belham's Parables of Animals, cr. 8vo. 1/6 cl.  
Bevan's The Honey Bee, new edit. cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl.  
Brooks's (S.) Sooner or Later, 2 vols. in 1, 8vo. 7/6 cl.  
Coles's Which is the Heroine? 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl.  
Cousen's Cosmographic Pictures, with Pretty Tales, roy. 8vo. 2/6  
Cousen's (Mrs.) From One Side to the Other, roy. 8vo. 2/6 bds.  
Donelan's The Value of Fosterstown, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 21/  
Dunning and Hassell's Child and the Book, 12mo. 3/  
Family (The) Friend, Vol. 1870, roy. 8vo. 1/6 bds.  
Friswell's (H.) Modern Men of Letters Honestly Criticised, 7/6  
Golden Hours, Vol. 1870, roy. 8vo. 7/6 cl.  
Good Words, Vol. 1870, roy. 8vo. 7/6 cl.  
Green's Little Castle Maiden, 12mo. 2/  
Hutton's Tales of the Saracens, 12mo. 5/  
Kingston's Marmaduke Merry, the Midshipman, 5/  
Love Fulfilling the Law, illust. 18mo. 2/6 cl.  
Martin the Weaver, 12mo. 1/6 cl.  
Nun's Sons of Heaven and Sons of Earth, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.  
Old and New Home, 12mo. 2/  
One Thousand Gems from Rev. H. W. Beecher, cr. 8vo. 5/  
O'Reilly's Deborah's Drawer, illust. 3/6 cl.  
Pet Lamb, The, 12mo. 1/  
Poole's Pictures of Cottage Life in West of England, cr. 8vo. 6/  
Present Day Thoughts, by A. K. H. B. cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
Rivers, Pen and Pencil Sketches, by Dean of Canterbury, 42/  
Ruth and Rose, a Story for School Girls, by E. R. cr. 8vo. 2/6  
Sealey's (J. R.) Lectures and Essays, 8vo. 10/6 cl.  
Semenza's Italian Finances, &c. cr. 8vo. 5/  
Smart's Bitter is the Root, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 33/6 cl.  
Sunshine, Vol. 1870, 8vo. 1/6 cl.  
Temple Bar Magazine, Vol. 30, 8vo. 5/6 cl.  
Temple's (R. and C.) Enterprise and Adventure, Anecdotes, 2/6  
Tolling in Rowing, 12mo. 2/  
White's Directory of Leeds, &c. Part 1, roy. 8vo. 12/6 cl.  
Whitney's We Girls, a Home Story, 12mo. 3/6 cl.  
Winning Words, 6th series, 12mo. 1/6 cl.  
Young Artist, 12mo. 1/  
Ward's (Mrs.) Short Stories for Young People, 3/6 cl.  
Ward's (Mrs.) The Vagabond, 1/  
Nov. 14, 1870.

#### OUR CAMBRIDGE LETTER.

THOSE of your readers who take an interest in university affairs will remember that the question of taxation, which occupied the attention of the residents during the May term, was still undecided when we separated for the long vacation. The Finance Syndicate had originally proposed to levy money "for the establishment of a Professorship of Experimental Physics and for other University purposes" by taxing the revenues of the several colleges. Difficulties were, however, raised by some of the Foundations; in consequence of which the Syndicate abandoned its scheme, and henceforward confining its attention solely to the Professorship of Experimental Physics, recommended the increase of the capitation-tax paid by all members of the University from seventeen shillings to nineteen. The Report containing this recommendation was duly discussed in the Arts school, and apparently met with little favour. It was shown that it

at once iniquitous—since it taxed Colleges in direct proportion to their educational efficiency,—and inadequate—inasmuch as the sum raised would be barely sufficient for the single object which the Syndicate now had in view. Notwithstanding the general dissatisfaction, the Syndicate issued the Report once more, with a few verbal alterations, and a statement that the plan proposed was intended only as a temporary measure, and at the beginning of the present term the Senate met to consider it in its amended shape. On this occasion most of the speakers admitted that the direct taxation of the Colleges for University purposes was highly desirable, but thought that the auspicious moment for the introduction of a systematic scheme, though near at hand, was not fully come, and that the difficulties which stood in the way were so serious that the University must, for the present, content itself with a compromise. In default of a better suggestion, they expressed themselves willing to accept even the temporary expedient proposed by the Syndicate. The Master of St. John's, however, suggested a more convenient method of raising the necessary funds,—a method which would lay the Colleges under contribution without necessitating the alteration of college statutes, or otherwise delaying the establishment of the Professorship. He proposed to levy from the Colleges the whole of the quota now paid to the Cambridge Improvement Commissioners partly by the Colleges and partly by the University. In this way a portion of the income of the University would be disengaged, more than sufficient to endow the Professorship of Experimental Physics. This scheme has since been sanctioned by the heads of colleges. Thus the immediate need has been satisfied at the expense of the Colleges; the compromise is therefore, as compromises go, a good one; but there are many here who regret the abandonment of the original and more comprehensive scheme. The Syndicate has not informed the Senate of the nature of the objections raised against direct taxation by certain of the Colleges; but according to some of the Syndics, who addressed the meeting in the Arts School, these objections were by no means insuperable. If so, it is to be regretted that the Syndicate did not endeavour to overcome them; for though we are to have our Professorship of Experimental Physics, the present arrangement leaves unsupplied several other wants of almost equal urgency. Meantime, the question of the direct taxation of Colleges sleeps, and will, I presume, continue to sleep until some new and extraordinary need, or perhaps a University Commission, rouses it from its slumbers.

In the course of the discussion above mentioned, Mr. Sedley Taylor, of Trinity, remarked that the Syndicate appeared to have overlooked one source of revenue, which would be amply sufficient to defray the costs of this and of other Professorships: this was the incomes of the Heads of Colleges, amounting in the aggregate to about 16,000*l.*, of which sum the greater part might be diverted without injury to the several foundations. Strictly speaking, this suggestion was not altogether relevant to the subject under discussion. It rests with the Colleges, not with the University, to determine what officers are necessary to the well-being of a learned society. Should the Colleges come to the conclusion that a Head is an expensive luxury, it is for them to effect the economy, not for the University to appropriate the income of the post. Whether relevant or irrelevant, Mr. Taylor's remark raises a question of great importance. There can be no doubt that the number of those who disapprove the recognition of the Heads as a distinct order in the University is steadily increasing; and there are some who argue that the Colleges could well dispense with them altogether.

The biennial elections to the Council took place on Monday last. Partly in consequence of the political agitations of the May term, partly in consequence of the superior organization of the Conservative party, the Liberals sustained a complete defeat, all the candidates named on the Conservative "ticket" being returned. It is fortunate for the Liberals that at the last election, two years ago,

they brought in a majority of their candidates. Hence, as the Councillors are elected for four years, the Liberals, though in a minority on the Council, are not without representatives. It is to be hoped that the Liberal party, which gains in strength with every fresh accession of Masters of Arts, will be more successful two years hence than it has been on the present occasion.

On Wednesday next, Nov. 16th, the Senate will "elect a clerk," to be presented to the Rectory of Handsworth, near Sheffield. The patron of this living being a Roman Catholic, the presentation to it has lapsed to the University. The person to whom the living is to be presented will be chosen by the members of the Senate, voting *more burgensium*. It is probable that this will be the last time that the presentation to a living, normally or abnormally in the gift of the University, is made in accordance with the results of a poll of the members of the Senate. Since the living of Handsworth fell vacant, a Syndicate, previously appointed to consider the propriety of changing the mode of election in such cases, has brought out its Report. The Syndicate recommends the appointment of a Board of Electors consisting of the Vice Chancellor and six other members of the Senate, who shall be elected by the Senate, and of whom two shall retire every four years. This recommendation has met with general approval; and a grace confirming the Report will probably be carried without opposition when it is offered to the Senate on Thursday next. No one who has taken a part in any of these elections under the old system can be blind to the serious inconveniences which attended it, whilst the six thousand members of the Senate scattered over England who formed the constituency will find themselves relieved from a serious burden when they are no longer liable to be summoned to Cambridge to vote for some friend, or some friend's friend, who may happen to be competing for a university living. The proposed board will be at least as conscientious as the Senate in making its election, and the scandals of a canvass and a poll will be avoided. It is to be hoped that ere long this reform will be extended to other appointments now in the hands of the Senate, and even to some of those which rest with the Electoral Roll. A small electoral board amenable to public opinion is perhaps the only body which can be made to understand that patronage is a responsible trust, not an accidental privilege. J.

MANUSCRIPT SATIRES OF SHAKSPEARE'S TIME.

Faversham, Nov. 12, 1870.

CAN any of your readers tell me who is the author of a MS. Collection of Satires in Canterbury Cathedral Library, entitled, "Epigrammi-Satiron.—The times Whistle, or new daunce of Seven Satires, whereunto are annexed divers other poems comprising things naturall, morall and theologicall, compiled by [crossed out] gent." The other poems are by "R. C. gent." Who was R. C., and have the poems been printed,\* are questions which I am unable to answer at present. The "Ad Lectorem" is cut away, except three lines in prose, but the opening lines of the poetical part follow. If the MS. is Elizabethan it is late Elizabethan, as its reference to Marston's "Scourge of Villanie," and such a line as

Scisme, Puritanisme, Brownisme

prove. Mr. Hazlitt dates the MS. circa 1616, but does not give his reasons (*Handbook*, 71).

From the Rhamnisian goddesse am I sent  
On sinne to inflict deserved punishment  
All seeing sunne lend me thy searching eye  
That I may finde and scourge impietie  
And pull from wite, which has beguiled sence  
Disguis'd like vertue, brasse for impudence  
For now this age, this worse than iron age,  
This synke of synne, this mass of hell, this stage  
Of all wantonnesse, whose disease is ease  
Wallowing in worlds of pleasure, swallowing seas  
Of sensual delights is whollie growne  
A huge impostume of corruption  
Whose swelling tumor (now I am assurde)  
Must needs be launc'd or ne're will be recurd  
To the which my genius prompteth me  
Though it passe Æsculapian surgerie

\* They have not been printed, so far as we know.—Ed.

Be stout my heart, my hand be firm and steady,  
Strike and strike home, the vaine worlds veine is ready.  
Let vicer'd limbes, and goutie humours quake  
Whilst with my pen I doe incision make.

J. M. COWFER.

FRENCH MISSION TO PALESTINE.

M. DE SAULCY has laid before the Paris Académie des Inscriptions an account of the preliminary examination of a commission appointed to report on the results of M. Victor Guérin's mission to Palestine.

The first Report, bearing date Jerusalem, 19th of May, 1870, relates particularly to Samaria, which M. Guérin has gone over, and studied in its Eastern zone on the right bank of the Jordan, and from Jericho to Beisan, the limit of his researches towards the North. He has described rapidly all the principal localities, and has pointed out the ruins of the monuments of all epochs. Mounts Gelboë, Noploue, with its ancient churches converted into mosques, Garizim and the sacred edifice known under the name of Kalaa, where the remains of the church of Santa Maria, erected in the time of Justinian, were supposed to be hidden.

The second Report is dated Jerusalem, 1st of July, 1870. M. Guérin in this gives the account of the rest of his explorations in Samaria; he studied the Western portion with the same care as the Eastern, and with more important results. The most interesting discovery is that of the famous mausoleum of the family of the Machabees, hitherto searched for in vain, which M. Guérin discovered at Kirbet el Medieh, the true Modin, or Modicim, of the Holy Scriptures, the country of this celebrated family. After a careful consideration of all the passages in the Books of Maccabees in which the monument which Simon raised over the tombs of his father, mother, brothers, and others, at Modin, and an examination on the spot of the conjectures of several religious inquirers, M. Guérin arrived at the conclusion that, on the one hand, Modin was really El Medieh, and that the ruins there found determine the site beyond question; and, on the other hand, and in opposition to the opinions recently stated in an English review, the monument of the Machabees should be looked for not at Kirbet el Ichoud, but at Kirbet el Gherbaoui, towards the N.N.W. on a fine plateau, where are to be seen the level courses of a rectangular edifice measuring 28 mètres by 6-20.

After several visits to this spot, M. Guérin caused the whole of the structure to be excavated methodically under his own eye, and discovered the entire plan of the edifice, the existence of seven sepulchral chambers for seven members of the illustrious family, and surmounted by seven pyramids placed in a line, each covering the ceiling of one chamber. Finally, in the midst of the ruins of Mussulman habitations built near the edifice were found numbers of pieces of monolithic columns, much mutilated, all of the same diameter (47 centimètres), remains of the magnificent colonnade which decorated the front of the building, the last confirmation of the discovery.

The tombs were explored. The floors were covered with small mosaic cubes, in some cases still adhering together, in others separate, and one of them contained five or six human bones, which were carefully respected.

M. Guérin is so convinced of the reality and importance of his discovery, that he does not hesitate to demand, with a view to the preservation of the monument of which M. Mauss, a French architect, has drawn the plan, that it should be purchased by France, and thus saved from the destruction to which since the excavation it is more than ever exposed; it being known that the Arabs seem to take a fanatic delight in destroying the monuments which we exhume. M. Guérin is naturally anxious also that no other nation should become possessed of it: time presses, and the price of the venerable relic will increase in proportion to the delay; he therefore proposes, should the Ministry not have the funds to spare at the moment, to abandon a sum of three thousand francs voted to him as a second instalment of the expense of



the mission, for the purchase of the site, the walling it in, and the completion of the excavation.

The Commission agreed with the conclusions of M. Guérin, which were adopted by the Académie; and it was decided that means should be taken to carry them into execution; accepting, if necessary, M. Guérin's liberal offer, with the proviso that the amount should be made good to him at a future time.

#### ITALIAN LIFE IN THE MIDDLE AGES.

A RUSSIAN writer has just published a valuable contribution to the history of Italian literature in a book called 'Villa Alberti; or, New Materials for the Characterization of the Literary and Social Crisis in the Italian Life of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Centuries.' The author, Mr. Alexander Veselofsky, in studying in the libraries at Florence, came upon a manuscript of the end of the fourteenth or the beginning of the fifteenth century in the Riccardi Library, containing a *romanzo* and some *novelli* which proved to be the originals of the tales first published in 1796 by G. Cioni as the 'Tales of Giraldo Giraldi.' The authenticity of these tales was questioned by subsequent critics, and Cioni did not deny that he was the writer, being willing to have the reputation of having so closely imitated the style of old writers. The text of this *romanzo* was published, with comments, by Mr. Veselofsky, in 1866-68, at Bologna, under the auspices of an Italian literary society. Those comments Mr. Veselofsky has made the basis of a study on the dark period of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, when there was such an opposition, and, at the same time, such a confusion between the Dantean and the classical schools, which had been very slightly passed over by all writers on Italian literary history. The unfinished romance is somewhat in the nature of the Decameron and the Canterbury Tales, the scene being laid in the late years of the fourteenth century, and the characters being drawn from that period. Studies among other manuscripts have assisted in the portrayal of the characteristics of this epoch. The value of the book does not lie alone in the light thus thrown on an obscure point of literary history; but the tales there inserted have been carefully compared with other Italian tales of the Middle Ages, and with the popular tales of various countries, and their origin traced to their Arabic and Indian originals. In this branch of comparative mythology the author is perfectly at home.

E. S.

#### Literary Gossip.

MR. ALFRED R. WALLACE, President of the Entomological Society, has ready for publication 'An Answer to the Arguments of Hume, Lecky, and others, against Miracles.'

THE Introductory Lectures delivered by the Professors of Glasgow University, on occasion of the opening of the buildings of the new University last week, are to be published in a small volume by Messrs. W. Blackwood & Sons.

A RUSSIAN translation of Mr. Deutsch's essay on the Talmud has just appeared at St. Petersburg, under the title of 'Chto Takoe Talmud.'

WE hear that the Rev. J. Earle, ex-Professor of Anglo-Saxon, has resigned the editorship of the projected edition of Chaucer's Works for the Oxford University Delegates.

MR. C. H. PEARSON, of Oriel, is preparing for the press a second edition of his late cousin's, Mr. Blaauw's, book on the Barons' War.

MR. TOM ARNOLD's edition of some of Wyclif's Homilies and Prose Works, in three volumes, is nearly completed.

THE Early English Text Society has granted a set of its books, as issued year by year, to

the University of Marburg, in Cassel, as a prize for the Early-English class there, taught by Prof. Bernhard Ten Brink.

WE might have noticed, when giving the curious information from a correspondent as to a French *patois* in Mauritius and the book of Æsop's Fables, that a still greater peculiarity will be afforded by the influence on French idiom of Negro or Caffre forms, and a modification by Dravidian or Chinese in its adoption by the Coolies.

It is proposed, if a small sum of money can be raised, to erect a memorial window to Moore in Bromham Church, under the shadow of whose walls his remains, with those of his wife, now rest.

In the American newspapers Dickens's 'Life of Our Saviour' was announced as in the press. Expectation has, however, been cut short by a communication from England that "it was the author's most positive and absolute injunction that the manuscript should never be published; and therefore it will never be seen by any one outside his home circle."

A CORRESPONDENT complains of an arrangement in the British Museum Library catalogue, under which the titles of Russian books are entered in Russian handwriting instead of in the Russian printed character. This was very convenient to the compiler of the Russian portion of the catalogue, but it already gives trouble to the readers and the library assistants, and will hereafter to the printers of the Catalogue. Those who know the printed character do not understand the written character, which is very different. In a recent case, when our Correspondent had occasion to consult a Russian grammar of another language, the attendant could not find the book for an hour and a half, as the short title outside and the printed title did not resemble the ticket. If this plan were applied to the modern Greek books, no Oxford man would be able to make out a title, as the handwriting differs so much: so too in Armenian, and it may be said also of the Indian languages. The sooner therefore the system is abolished and more labour thrown on the title compiled the better. Many a one can read German books, who cannot decipher a German letter.

THE *American Literary Gazette* is responsible for the following story:—Nathaniel Hawthorne wrote a juvenile novel called 'Fanshawe,' which was published in Boston in 1828, soon after he left college; one of the publishers being Mr. Nahum Capen, who was long afterwards Postmaster of Boston. Hawthorne thought he could do better things, and not only never put his name on the title-page, but kept the authorship of the story a secret, and within a year before his death charged Mr. Capen never to reveal it. He used no influence to destroy the book, however, but rejoiced at such a sale as it obtained. Only three or four copies of 'Fanshawe' are, it is said, in existence, and are in the possession of Hawthorne's friends, in Boston and in Salem.

THE same journal mentions with respect to the Library of the British Museum that it now contains more than a million of volumes. This is an exaggeration. But we tremble for the trustees and officials of that establishment, when further told—"it is expected that this number will be doubled in fifteen years, proba-

bly in less time"! We wonder upon what data the writer has made his calculation, and where the books are to come from.

OUR Leipzig correspondent writes:—"In saying 'no copy of Mr. Swinburne's poems has as yet reached Germany,' I, of course, meant in the way of trade, or without being specially ordered by some individual purchaser. Your Cassel correspondent's review of 'Atalanta in Calydon' in the *Europa* I had read, but did not think of at the moment. I can, however, as he does not seem aware of it, tell him, perhaps to his gratification, that I myself reviewed or rather reported on Chastelard in the *Augsb. Allgem. Zeitung*, and that, in the same journal, Dr. K. Elze, some time back, had an article on Tennyson and his school, in which he, quite erroneously I think, included Mr. Swinburne.

RECOLLECTING the unhappy fate of the Library at Strasburg, which was completely burnt during the siege, it is some consolation to lovers of books that Metz escaped a bombardment, so that her library and museum remain still intact. The library consists of about 30,000 volumes of printed books, and 1,157 MSS., many of which date as far back as the tenth, eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth centuries. Some are beautifully illuminated, and others are historically valuable, such as the Chronicles of Paul Ferry and Philippe de Vigneulles.

THE Ottoman authorities have hit upon an ingenious mode of restricting the inventive genius of their local journalists, so far as false telegrams are concerned. The Director-General of Telegraphs, having the monopoly of that administration, has prosecuted the editor of a paper who gave publicity to a telegram *canard* of a sensational kind, by charging him with being a smuggler of what had not passed through the channel of the department. The editor had no pigeons or balloons of his own to use against his prosecutor's wires.

WE complimented the author of 'The Land of the Sun' on having written an amusing book, but it appears he is not satisfied: he must be thought erudite also. We noticed one or two mistakes he has made in writing proper names; and at a time when the Indian Government is directing its attention to the way in which names of places should be written, a remark on that subject was perhaps not inopportune. Mr. Low says we ought not to have remarked on *Doodnath*, *Fewarny*, and *Tanner*, because Fewarny should have been printed *Jiwarry*,—which would have been correct,—and because *Tanner* is so spelt and pronounced in the Presidency in which it is situated. With regard to Fewarny we leave Mr. Low to answer himself, but as to *Tanner* we ask by whom is the name so spelt and pronounced? The word signifies "station," and in Mr. Keith Johnston's Atlas it is spelt *Thanah*. Some people in this country spell and pronounce *sixpence*, *Tanner*, but Mr. Low will hardly wish us to accept that form for general use. With regard to the population of Basra, Mr. Low appeals to the inexorable logic of facts—so do we.

THE admirers of Competitive Examinations will, no doubt, be glad to hear that the Triennial Examinations are now taking place in China. There are eighteen local centres and 150,000 candidates, 20,000 of them are being

examined at the capital; and Chen-kwo-jui is gaining the hearts of the Pekin competitors by providing, at his own expense, pens, ink and paper for the ordeal. In England, Government furnishes, and will possibly continue to furnish, these requisites; but when we are a little more civilized some benefactor of our race will, perhaps, provide lunch for those whose ability to be clerks at Somerset House, or to govern India, is so wisely tested by the amount of cramming they have been able to endure.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—Professor Pepper's New Entertainment. ON the WAR and the DESTRUCTIVE IMPLEMENTS USED THEREAT, daily, at a Quarter to Three and Eight, with elaborate Pictorial Illustrations, which have been supplied by the War Correspondent of the Polytechnic and other Friends.—The accomplished FRÄGGER FAMILY (six in number), and Mr. Suchet Champion will sing the GERMAN, FRENCH, and ENGLISH PATRIOTIC SONGS.—The Explanation of the Ghost as usual.

## SCIENCE

### THE SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES' HOUSE.

WITH the resumption of the sessional meetings, the question of accommodation for the unhoused scientific Societies very naturally occupies attention. The first assembly of the Statistical Society was devoted to a paper by Dr. Guy, nominally 'On the Claims of Science to Public Recognition and Support, with special reference to the so-called Social Sciences.' The paper, some said, was not statistical; but we prefer Dr. Guy's essay to a meagre digest of some parliamentary return. If anything touches the progress of statistical science in the metropolis at this time, it is the inadequate accommodation afforded for the transaction of the business of the Statistical Society. If the present movement to obtain a proper domicile be successful, then not only the Statistical, but the other learned Societies interested will very largely profit in the effective application of their resources, and it is to be hoped will have to pay less money for rent, and more for purely scientific purposes. The Statistical Society has also taken a foremost part in convoking the other Societies, and assisting in the organization of a Scientific Societies' House Committee, in which Dr. Guy is their delegate.

The author entered into a review of the question, which, however, gave rather a partial notice of the growth of what he defined as the social sciences; he assumed that life assurance companies and the formation of the Institute of Actuaries constitute the effective causes on which statistical science depends, and he therefore deposed it from its rank as a political science, and suppressed the whole history of political economy in the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries, and it may be said even in this century. The sketch is indeed meagre, for while the Social Science Association was introduced there was no reference to the Society of Arts, which, for more than a century, has laboured in this department as well as others, and the Chairman of which, Lord Henry Lennox, opened the session last Wednesday, with an address largely dealing with Social Science. The omission is perhaps to be regretted, as in the organization of any extensive scheme it appears desirable to embrace not only the Social Science Association, but the Society of Arts, which, as Dr. Guy showed, includes the greatest number of members, 3,339.

One noticeable feature is the progress the question has made, even among those most indisposed to take an enlarged and liberal view. We showed at an early period of the movement what were the true necessities of the case, and it is now evident such views are exercising a healthy influence. The decision of the Committee has not been arrived at, and it is intimated there is still a divergence of views, while at the Statistical Society very limited notions are entertained of the real nature of the claims of Science on the public, and how they are to be met. Dr. Guy not only freely advocated the demand of a site from the Government, but also an enlarged plan of accommodation, which would provide an extension of the palatial façade of the Banqueting House at Whitehall. This is assuredly a

bold step in advance, and it may be said there was only one dissentient, though an attempt was made to introduce the small society and rent speculation elements, throwing the chief burden on the funds of the Societies. Dr. Guy still thinks it necessary to guard himself, by claiming as a merit that his friends only ask for a site for a building for their section, and make no other demands on the Government for assistance.

Col. Strange again appeared as the advocate of the general claims of Science, and of more enlarged accommodation, and stated that a plan, supported by Capt. Bedford Pim, was before the Committee, and that there were other means of accomplishing the object. He dwelt strongly on the want of organization on the part of the Government in dealing with scientific administration, and referred pointedly to the late case of the Eclipse Expedition, the attainment of which he stated, amid general assent, had really been in a great measure due to the exertions of Mr. J. Norman Lockyer. In demanding the appointment of a Minister or Director of the Scientific Department for the mere purpose of administrative arrangement, he was misinterpreted by Mr. Brogden, M.P., as propounding a system of state interference with the pursuits of Science. Upon this head, the nature and limits of the assistance given by our own and other Governments in aid of scientific pursuits, there seemed to be some misapprehension.

Mr. Newmarch, the President of the Statistical Society, in closing the discussion, congratulated the Fellows on the progress which had been made, and said it would be one duty of the Committee of Delegates to continue the agitation, to tender evidence before the Royal Commission of Inquiry on the relations of Science to the Government, and to obtain from the Government a definite decision on the question of site.

### SURVEY OF THE JAPANESE MEDITERRANEAN.

FROM correspondence recently received from Japan, we learn that the Government of that insular empire not only appreciate the value of our hydrographic Survey, but are anxious to avail themselves of the services of our officers, in order to complete a series of charts of their coasts and islands. Rather more than twelve months ago application was made to Sir Harry C. Parkes, K.C.B., Her Majesty's Minister, stating the desire of the government of the islands to engage, at their own expense, English officers to survey the northern island, Yezo. Sir Harry, however, suggested that the object in view might be attained with greater facility if the Admiralty were to extend and complete the Survey which had been actually commenced. This suggestion was at once adopted by the Government of the Mikado; and we are informed that the matter has been decided in the affirmative.

H.M. sloop *Sylvia* has been now for some time engaged in the survey of the southern portions of the Japanese islands, and has not only produced charts of the ports and channels, but has laid down a navigable route through the whole of the great inland sea. These charts have been of the utmost service, not only to the Royal Navy, but also for commercial purposes; in fact, the security of our commercial navigation in these waters may be said to depend almost entirely upon the result of the labours of the Hydrographic Department of the Admiralty. The continuance of this Survey is a matter of small cost and of great importance. The vessel and officers engaged are in no way subtracted from the effective force of the Navy; and the mere permission to make observations without interruption would, not so very long ago, have been considered a great gain to the cause of physical science.

The Japanese Government, for reasons into which it is unnecessary here to enter, attribute great importance to the immediate survey of the Coast of Hoku Kaido, the northern island, known to us as Yezo. They are prepared to provide a vessel and officers of their own, to attend upon the *Sylvia*, and to receive instructions from the officers of the latter. They will also provide coal, land-transport and

accommodation when requisite, pilots, and any similar aid that may be required for the purposes of the survey.

Under these circumstances we hear with great satisfaction that the *Sylvia* will proceed with the Survey of Yezo in the spring of 1871. The active support of the Japanese Government will prevent any inconveniences from local prejudice. A due regard to national economy is thus combined with an absence of any petty attempt to take advantage of the eagerness of the Japanese Government. If, as there is every promise, the Survey be carried through in the spirit in which it is undertaken, the gain to the world will be very great. Geographical and hydrographical knowledge of a most interesting, and hitherto little known, district will be largely increased; and a commercial highway will be opened into the populous ports and teeming seas of what may be regarded as a sort of Oriental England.

We think that both the country and the Admiralty are to be congratulated on this very satisfactory arrangement.

The best maps that we have yet seen of the Japanese Archipelago are those contained in M. Humbert's work, 'Le Japon Illustré,' reviewed in the *Athenæum* some time ago. As to the excellency of those prepared by the hydrographer's department it is superfluous to make any remark.

### FURTHER NEWS FROM THE POLAR SEA.

SINCE the return of the North German Arctic Expedition, of which we have given an account (see *Athen.*, Nos. 2239, 2244), two other explorers, Herr von Heuglin and Count Zeil, an officer in the army of Würtemberg, have returned home with valuable collections and information. From July 15 to September 15 these two gentlemen explored, for the most part in boats, the coast of East Spitzbergen, from 77° to 79° N. latitude, where they collected a large number of fossil plants, and shot and captured animals enough (among them a specimen of the rare *Anas stelleri*) to pay one-third of their expenses. But their crowning achievement was the discovery of land at about thirty-six nautical (German?) miles to the east of Spitzbergen. Whether this land is that discovered by Gillis in 1707, or that seen by the Swedish expedition in 1864, is as yet uncertain; but it is described by Herr von Heuglin as a land abounding in sharp and ridgy summits, and equal at least to Spitzbergen in length and breadth. This discovery, the most important of late years in the Arctic Sea, supplies one more instalment, though imperfect as yet, towards our knowledge of what geographers term the Polar Mystery.

Besides this the Grand Duke Alexij Alexandrovitch, of Russia, accompanied by the well-known traveller Middendorff, in a corvette of the imperial navy, has, during the past summer, made a scientific cruise in the icy Sea; and among the results obtained is knowledge of the fact that the Gulf Stream flows as far as Novaia Zemlia, and with a temperature of +10° Réaumur. And, judging from the reports of Norwegian shipmasters, who, during this remarkable summer, have picked up far-drifted net-floats in the Kara Sea, the warm flood makes itself felt still farther to the north and east. Capt. Johannesen, who, last year, sailed completely round the Kara Sea in a boat of thirty tons, has this year circumnavigated Novaia Zemlia, and found that it stretches farther to the north than is shown on the charts, namely, to 77° 8' N. latitude. Since the memorable expedition of Barentz in 1594, this is the first time that any educated seaman has penetrated so far in that direction.

From all this it appears that geography has gained much during the present year from voyages within the Arctic circle: further knowledge of the coast of East Greenland, of a magnificent fiord by which its interior may be explored to within, perhaps, a few leagues of the western coast, and of a polar Mont Blanc, with attendant heights to greet the eye and excite the enterprise of the adventurer. Game is so abundant on the shores, and fish so plentiful in the waters of that great



fjord, that we may fancy it will now become the annual resort of all English sportsmen who own a yacht. But to resume the summing-up:—East Spitzbergen and East and North Nova Zemlia are now better known than ever before, and expanses of sea hitherto supposed to be fast-locked in ice, have been found open and navigable.

This last-mentioned fact deserves especial attention. Is it a repetition of that widespread disappearance of ice which took place in 1818, and opened the way for Parry's great discoveries? or is it a passing effect only of the high temperature of the present summer? That this temperature has been felt in high latitudes is proved by intelligence from Iceland that the season has been extraordinary. The average temperature was from 60° to 64°; and in the valleys from 68° to 70°, an amount which, we need hardly say, occurs in that remote island but very seldom. During July and August rain fell every day for five weeks; and the sun was almost continuously hidden by cloud and fog throughout the summer. How acceptable a portion of that cloud would have been in our latitudes! As may naturally be expected, the vast breadths of Icelandic snow and ice have melted under the unwonted heat, and we read without surprise in a communication addressed to the Scottish Meteorological Society, that "some of the large glaciers have become very small and insignificant." "This is strange," adds the writer, "and no now living person can remember anything like it."

In our former article on this subject it was stated that the German explorers had found Shannon Island larger than represented on the charts. We are unaware at present of the charts thus referred to by the German geographer; but we venture to think he could not have seen the Island as laid down in the chart published in 1825 with Capt. Sabine's quarto—'Account of Experiments to determine the Figure of the Earth.' In that chart Shannon Island fills greater part of the space between the 17th and 19th degrees.

We take the opportunity to add a rectification. In the article above referred to, the Pendulum Islands were said to be the most northerly station of the pendulum operations. But in that same year (1823) Capt. Sabine swung his pendulums on the west coast of Spitzbergen, in latitude 79° 50'. We may remark in conclusion, that to make accurate pendulum observations at four northern stations—Trondhjem, Hammerfest, Greenland, and Spitzbergen—in the course of a single summer was a very good summer's work.

#### SOCIETIES.

**GEOGRAPHICAL.**—Nov. 15.—Sir R. I. Murchison, Bart., President, in the chair.—The following new Fellows were elected: Messrs. E. B. Evans, J. Firth, C. E. Habicht, C. Harrison, S. Haynes, M.D., Major-Gen. J. V. Kirkland, Lieut.-Col. G. A. Laughton, P. H. Laurence, E. Masterman, and Admiral the Hon. John Spencer.—The President, in his opening address, alluding first to the explorations of the Central Asian traveller, Mr. G. W. Hayward, announced that before the treacherous murder of this accomplished geographer by a chief of Yassin, he had prepared and sent home a most highly finished map of Yassin and the neighbouring region, drawn from a general survey which he made on his first excursion into these mountain valleys in February. His last letters would be read that evening. Next in importance to this journey was the expedition of Mr. T. D. Forsyth to Kashgar, on a mission to the Ataligh Ghazee of that country. An instructive letter from that able public servant had recently been received, written at Shadulla (at the foot of the Kuen Lun) on his return over the mountains. In it he stated that the mission had at present failed, owing to the absence of the chief of Kashgar on a military expedition to the North-East. Another letter on the same journey had been received from Dr. Cayley, who accompanied Mr. Forsyth as far as Shadulla, and who, himself, made a geographical discovery of some interest regarding the routes over the mountains between Shadulla

and Changchenmo, on his way back to Ladak.—The last reports concerning Dr. Livingstone were next mentioned. These were communicated in a letter from Dr. Kirk, dated the 29th of August last. Many traders had arrived at Zanzibar from the interior, and none of them, in answer to questions, gave any other account than that Livingstone was still somewhere in the interior, either at Karagwe or Ujiji. Abundant supplies had long ago been forwarded to the traveller; and the President dwelt especially on the fact that before the grant of 1,000*l.*, made by our Government, had reached Zanzibar, all present wants had been met by the liberality of Mr. James Young, an attached friend of Dr. Livingstone, who had placed considerable sums of money at the disposal of Dr. Kirk for that purpose.—Among the subjects already in hand for discussion during the earlier meetings of the Session were, first, a paper of great importance by Capt. Sherard Osborn, 'On the Geography of the Bed of the Ocean,' which would be illustrated by superb diagrams, exhibiting sections of the Atlantic and Indian Oceans, and the Mediterranean Sea.—Another paper was a narrative of the remarkable journey of Lieut. G. C. Musters, R.N., through the interior of Patagonia; the author of which had spent fourteen months amongst the Indians, and visited the eastern side of the Andes in these latitudes, which no other traveller had before explored.—The recent successful pioneer journey overland, from Swan River to Adelaide, promoted by Governor Weld, of Western Australia, and carried out by Mr. John Forrest, was next alluded to; also the discovery, by Mr. C. B. Brown, of the Geological Survey of British Guiana, of a magnificent waterfall, 730 feet high, on one of the tributaries of the Essequibo, the details of which would form the subject of one of the evening meetings.—A series of letters from the late Mr. G. W. Hayward were then read. They were of various dates, from the 17th of February to the 21st of May last, and were addressed to Sir Roderick Murchison and Col. Showers, of Srinagar. It appears that he started from Cashmere towards the end of last year, and reached the elevated valley of Gilgit, *via* Skardo, on the Upper Indus, where, after some delay, he passed onward between the snowy ranges to Yassin, in the upper part of the same valley, arriving about the end of February. The chief of Yassin, Meer Wulli Khan, received him with marked courtesy and kindness, and promised to assist him with an escort to carry out his design of crossing the Darkot Pass into the region of the Upper Oxus. During his stay here he made many exploring and hunting excursions up the courses of the tributary streams, reaching the foot of the passes which lead, on the north, into Wakhan, and, on the west, into Chitral. The passes, however, were still encumbered with snow; and, after obtaining all the information then in his power, he returned to Cashmere, to remain until Midsummer. Meantime he had interested himself in the cause of the mountaineers of Yassin and Gilgit, who, he believed, had been oppressed by the Cashmerian invaders. At the end of June he returned to Yassin, but the last letter received from him was dated the 6th of July, from Gilgit. During his stay in the winter and spring he had collected vocabularies of all the hill-tribes of the region, and also topographical notes of many valleys, which he himself was not able to visit, especially those of Hunza and Nagar and Dilail. Some of the peaks between the valleys reached an altitude of 25,000 feet. The passes on the north all led to the Upper Oxus, and not to the tributaries of the Yarkand. He was hence enabled to decide that the mountain range, limiting the Yarkand plain, was placed much farther to the west than its true position. A carefully-drawn map of the whole region, executed by Mr. Hayward, was laid on the table. Sir Henry Rawlinson gave the meeting an account of the death of the traveller. He said, in the first place, there was no foundation whatever for the impression that had got abroad that the Maharajah of Cashmere was implicated in the affair. On his first journey Mr. Hayward was received in the most friendly manner

by the Yassin chief, but we have no account of what happened between them on his second journey in July, and do not know the motives of Meer Wulli Khan's change of disposition towards the traveller; we know that the Wuzeer of Yassin was a great friend to Mr. Hayward, and, possibly, the chief was jealous of that friendship. He might, however, have been actuated by cupidity and the desire to plunder the traveller's property. The murder being resolved upon, Meer Wulli sent some of his people after him, on the road to Darkot. Mr. Hayward appeared to have become suspicious, and, on the march, ordered his followers to keep their arms in readiness. At night he sat up at the encampment, with his loaded pistols by his side; but in the morning, being overcome with fatigue, the Chief's men, who had been in ambush, then came forward, seized him, and, dragging him by a rope round his neck, stoned him to death, together with his moonshee. Thus, the intrepid and accomplished traveller, in the prime of his youth, was treacherously slain, and his body lies under a heap of stones in that inhospitable region. As to Meer Wulli Khan, he henceforth became a doomed man; the neighbouring peoples and chiefs, horrified at the deed he had committed, chased him from their territories. He fled first to Badakshan, then to his uncle, the chief of Chitral. He was now in concealment somewhere in the mountains, or probably by this time had been caught and executed. A letter was read from Mr. Hayward to the President, before his departure on the second journey (May 21st), in which he acknowledged the great risk he was about to run, and stated that in order to relieve the Geographical Society of any shade of responsibility on his account, he deemed it right to sever all connexion with that body during the expedition. He further said that he was aware before he left London that the exploration was distinctly understood to be at his own risk and responsibility.

**ASTRONOMICAL.**—Nov. 11.—W. Lassell, Esq., President, in the chair.—Messrs. G. F. Rodwell, F. Barrow, H. Grubb, C. Bird and J. Sidebotham were elected Fellows.—The following communications were announced, and some of them read:—'On the Currents of the Solar Photosphere,' by Mr. Weston, 'On the Aurora of September 24, 1870,' by Admiral Ommanney, 'Observations of Coggia's Comet,' by the Rev. S. Perry, 'Observations of the Occultation of Saturn, September 30th,' by Mr. Prince, 'The Laws of Star Grouping,' 'On the Use of Eye Screens in Telescopic and Other Researches,' and 'On a Contrivance for extending the Principles of Mr. Browning's Automatic Spectroscope to a Second Battery of Prisms,' by Mr. Proctor, 'On a Standard or Uniform Measure of Time,' by Col. Drayson, 'On a Photograph of Jupiter,' and 'On the Spectrum of the Aurora Borealis,' by Mr. Browning, 'On a Period in Egyptian Chronology,' by Mr. Abbe, 'On an Automatic Spectroscope,' by Mr. Grubb, 'On the Performance of a Zenith Telescope,' by Col. Strange, and 'On Periodical Changes in the Physical Condition of Jupiter,' by Mr. Ranyard.

**GEOLOGICAL.**—Nov. 9.—J. Prestwich, Esq., President, in the chair.—Lieuts. R. C. Hart, R.E., and J. F. Lewis, R.E., and Mr. M. F. Maury, jun., were elected Fellows.—The following communications were read: 'On the Carboniferous Flora of Bear Island (lat. 74° 30' N.),' by Prof. O. Heer. The author described the sequence of the strata supposed to belong to the Carboniferous and Devonian series in Bear Island, and indicated that the plant-bearing beds occurred immediately below those which, from their fossils, were to be referred to the Mountain Limestone. He remarked that the Flora of Bear Island has nothing to do with any Devonian Flora, and that, consequently, it and the other Floras, which he regards as contemporaneous, must be referred to the Lower Carboniferous. Hence he argued that the line of separation between the Carboniferous and Devonian formations must be drawn below the yellow sandstones. The presence of fishes of Old Red Sandstone type in the overlying

slates he regarded as furnishing no argument to invalidate this conclusion.—Sir Charles Lyell, Mr. Carruthers and Mr. Boyd Dawkins took part in the discussion.—‘On the Evidence afforded by the Detrital Beds without and within the North-Eastern part of the Valley of the Weald as to the Mode and Date of the Denudation of that Valley,’ by Mr. S. V. Wood, jun. In the author’s opinion the upheaval of the district took place in Post-glacial times, and subsequently to the deposition of the gravels of the Thames Valley, of East Essex, and of the Canterbury heights; and the denudation was effected chiefly by tidal erosion during gradual upheaval in an inlet of the sea, aided by the action of fresh water flowing into this inlet from the north, by streams draining the land which now constitutes the counties of Middlesex and Essex.

**STATISTICAL.**—Nov. 15.—W. Newmarch, Esq., President, in the chair.—The following gentlemen were elected Fellows: Messrs. G. L. Craik, W. R. Kennedy, J. Noble, E. Rich and T. Avery.—Dr. Guy read a paper ‘On the Claims of Science to Public Recognition and Support, with special reference to the so-called Social Sciences.’

**INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.**—Nov. 15.—C. B. Vignoles, Esq., President, in the chair.—The paper read was, ‘On the Water Supply of the Town of Paisley, Renfrewshire,’ by Mr. A. Leslie.

**MATHEMATICAL.**—Nov. 10.—Prof. Cayley, President, in the chair.—The following gentlemen were elected to form the Council for the ensuing session: *President*, W. Spottiswoode; *Vice-Presidents*, Profs. Cayley, Henrici, and H. J. S. Smith; *Treasurer*, Dr. Hirst; *Hon. Secs.*, M. Jenkins and R. Tucker; *other Members*, W. K. Clifford, T. Cotterill, M. W. Crofton, C. W. Merrifield, J. F. Moulton, J. Stirling, A. Smith, Prof. Sylvester and J. J. Walker.—Mr. J. H. Smith was proposed for Membership.—The President-elect having taken the chair, called upon Prof. Cayley to read his address, entitled ‘A Sketch of Recent Researches upon Quartic and Quintic Surfaces.’

**ANTHROPOLOGICAL.**—Nov. 15.—Dr. Charnock, V.P., in the chair.—Messrs. H. R. Adams and D. Kinloch were elected Fellows.—Dr. R. H. Bakewell read a paper ‘On Observations on the Condition of Blood-corpuscles in certain Races.’—Mr. C. S. Wake read a paper ‘On Tribal Affinities among the Aborigines of Australia.’—and Dr. R. Peel ‘Notes on Aboriginal Australians and Half-Castes.’

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon. Asiatic, 3.
- London Institution, 4.—‘Chemical Action’ (Educational Course), Prof. Odling.
- Entomological, 7.
- Royal Academy, 8.—‘Anatomy,’ Mr. R. Partridge.
- Architects, 8.
- Social Science, 8.—‘Policy of this Country in regard to War,’ Mr. F. Hill.
- Tues. Ethnological, 8.—‘The Concord, Pronouns and Genders of Nouns,’—‘Position of Australian Languages,’ Dr. W. H. J. Bleek.
- Engineers, 8.—‘Water Supply of Paisley Discussion,’ ‘Construction of Metal and Timber Arches,’ M. Jules Gaudard.
- Wed. Society of Arts, 8.—‘South African Diamonds,’ Prof. Tennant.
- Geological, 8.—‘South African Geology,’ Mr. G. W. Stow.
- ‘Reptilian Fossils from Gozo,’ Mr. J. W. Hulke; ‘Bone-bed in the Lowest “Lynton Grey Beds,” North Devon,’ Dr. F. Royston Fairbank.
- Archaeological Association, 8.—‘Legends of the Wye,’ Mr. T. F. Dillon Croker.
- Literature, 8.—‘Great Seals of Edward the Confessor,’ Mr. W. Birch.
- Thurs. London Institution, 7½.—‘Precious Metals and their Distribution,’ Prof. Morris.
- Royal, 8.
- Antiquaries, 8½.—‘Romano-Celtic Sword exhibited by Lord Wharfedale,’ Mr. A. W. Franks; ‘Wall Decorations of the Roman Period in Sertile Work, especially in Glass,’ Mr. A. Newbitt.

#### Science Gossip.

At the Anniversary Meeting of the Royal Society on the 30th inst. the following list of Council and officers for the coming year will be proposed for election. It will be seen that Mr. W. Spottiswoode, as Treasurer, is to take the place of the late Dr. W. A. Miller, who, as our readers will remember, died in September last:—*President*, General Sir E. Sabine, R.A.; *Treasurer*, W. Spottiswoode, Esq., M.A.; *Secretaries*, W. Sharpey, M.D., and G. G. Stokes, Esq., M.A.; *Foreign Secretary*, Prof. W. H. Miller, M.A.; *Other Members of the Council*, G. Burrows, M.D., H. Debus, Esq., Ph.D., Prof. F.

M. Duncan, M.B., Sir Philip De M. Grey Egerton, Bart., Prof. G. C. Foster, B.A., F. Galton, Esq., J. P. Gassiot, Esq., Dr. J. D. Hooker, C.B., W. Huggins, D.C.L., Prof. G. M. Humphry, M.D., J. G. Jeffreys, Esq., Sir John Lubbock, Bart., C. W. Siemens, Esq., Prof. H. J. S. Smith, M.A., Prof. John Tyndall, LL.D., and Prof. A. W. Williamson, Ph.D.

We are glad to learn that, on further representations made to them, the Government have agreed to aid with money and a ship the proposed Expedition to the Mediterranean to observe the eclipse of the sun next month. It would have been a national disgrace had this aid been entirely withheld, especially as other Governments have shown that they appreciate the occasion. We believe a Committee are now at work in arranging details; and we see that the Savilian Professor of Astronomy at Oxford has invited those who wish to co-operate to call on him. It is expected that the Expedition will sail in the first week in December. The parties from the United States have made their arrangements.

The fourth volume of the ‘Catalogue of Scientific Papers,’ compiled and published by the Royal Society, has just been brought out, whereby another large instalment of the literature of science becomes available to scientific men. The thousand pages comprised in this volume carry on the list of authors’ names from L’Hôpital to Poz, and between these will be found many well known in the history of science. Under Liebig appear the titles of 284 papers, and 33 others in which the famous chemist is joint author. In Botany, the late Dr. Lindley figures for 58 papers; and H. F. Link for 101, while the mathematician Liouville numbers 309. The Rev. Dr. Lloyd has 60 papers; the late Sir John Lubbock 73, and Sir Charles Lyell 74. The entomological papers by Hippolyte Lucas amount to 326. Gustav Magnus, a profound investigator of physical science, now deceased, has 66 papers; and Matteucci, who did so much for electro-physiology, has 247. Olbers shows 122 papers; Oersted 117; and 311 papers form a long zoological roll under Prof. Owen’s name. From these selections our readers may judge of the quality of this important book, and they will share our hope that no time may be lost in bringing out the subsequent volumes.

For some time past electricians have been trying to discover a way to send two messages at the same time along a single wire. We understand that the problem has been solved by Mr. C. F. Varley, who has devised a method by which four currents at once can be delivered by a single wire.

The Rev. J. Evans, Whixall Vicarage, Whitchurch, Shropshire, writes to us:—‘If the sending out of an expedition, for the purpose of observing the December Eclipse, depends upon a subscription by individual lovers of science, it is surely time to begin. I am sorry that I cannot afford a larger sum, but if all whose means are as limited as my own will contribute a like amount, and richer persons give in proportion to their more ample means, I have no doubt that a sufficient fund may be the result. If you will kindly furnish me with the name of any one to whom a Post Office order, or cheque, may be made payable, I shall be glad to contribute 1*l.*: a small beginning, indeed, but it may induce others to contribute more largely, and thus lead to the desired result.’

The Institution of Civil Engineers is a society which, having many visitants from a distance, makes provision for the closing of its proceedings at half-past nine. Although meetings are held weekly, and it is the practice to give any number of meetings requisite for discussion, yet it seems likely that closing earlier will in time lead to an earlier opening hour,—that at present being eight o’clock. The opening meeting last week was very fully attended.

STAMBOOL will, in a few weeks, inaugurate its first railway, and have a station near the Seven Towers, which of yore used to be the station for the imprisonment of foreign ambassadors. Some of those who will hear the first railway whistle, heard the cannons of Mahmood sounding the doom of the Janissaries, the enemies of improvement.

THE opening meeting of the Ethnological Society took place on Tuesday in last week. There is the accustomed plethora of papers, and the new *Journal* is already becoming too small for their record, notwithstanding occasional enlargement of contents and cutting down of papers.

PROF. AGASSIZ will contribute to the *Atlantic Monthly*, in the course of 1871, a series of papers on the Glacial Theory, as developed by his observations in the White Mountains during the past summer.

#### FINE ARTS

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS.—The NINTH ANNUAL WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES AND STUDIES by the MEMBERS, will OPEN at their Gallery, 8, Pall Mall East, on MONDAY, November 28th.

WILLIAM CALLOW, Secretary.

EXHIBITION OF HIGH-CLASS FRENCH PAINTINGS, at T. M’LEAN’S NEW GALLERY, 7, Haymarket.—M. DURAND RUEIL, of Paris, having removed most of his Pictures to London, they are entrusted to Mr. M’Lean’s care for exhibition, and will be ON VIEW during the next few days.—7, Haymarket. Admission on presentation of Address Card.

WINTER EXHIBITION OF CABINET PICTURES in OIL, DUDLEY GALLERY, Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.—THE FOURTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN, from Ten till Five.—Admission, 1*s.*; Catalogue, 6*d.* GEORGE L. HALL, Hon. Sec.

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL WINTER EXHIBITION OF CABINET PICTURES by BRITISH and FOREIGN ARTISTS is NOW OPEN, at the French Gallery, 120, Pall Mall, from half-past Ten till Five o’clock.—Admission, 1*s.*; Catalogue, 6*d.*

GRAND LOAN EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS at the GALLERY of the INSTITUTE of PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS, 53, Pall Mall, in aid of the National Hospital for Consumption, Ventnor.—Open daily, from Ten till Six.—Admission, 1*s.*—No such display of the drawings of dead and living masters of water-colour has been seen in London since 1862.—Times, Nov. 5.

GUSTAVE DORÉ.—DORÉ GALLERY, 35, New Bond Street.—EXHIBITION of PICTURES, including ‘Christian Martyrs,’ ‘Monastery,’ ‘Triumph of Christianity,’ ‘Francesca de Rimini,’ at the New Gallery.—OPEN from Ten till Six. Gas at dusk.—Admission, 1*s.*

OLD BOND STREET GALLERY, 25, Old Bond Street.—THE SECOND WINTER EXHIBITION of PICTURES, in Oil and Water Colours, is NOW OPEN.—Admission, 1*s.*; Catalogue, 6*d.* G. F. CHISTEN, J. W. BENSON, Hon. Secs.

#### WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS.

AN Exhibition of water-colour drawings, borrowed from many of the richest collections, is now open at the Gallery of the Institute of Painters in Water-Colours, Pall Mall; it has been formed for the benefit of the National Hospital for Consumption, &c., at Ventnor, and comprises many gems of English Art, together with a large proportion of third and fourth-rate productions, and a good deal of trash. The liberality of Messrs. W. Bowman, Burton, J. Henderson, W. Leaf, Murietta, W. Quilter, and others has furnished the collection. So many of the first-named order of drawings are well known that it is only needful to cite a few of that kind from among the varied total of more than two hundred, in order to satisfy students that they may by visiting the collection find an ample fund of delight. The typical drawing styled *Sunset* (No. 15), by G. Barrett, shows a vista in a wide valley, and is almost as characteristic of the painter as its neighbour, *Hastings Fishermen* (6), is of W. Hunt, who produced it, or Mr. Levy’s *Cow-shed* (42)—the well-known drawing of a woman milking a cow in a stall, at a time when Hunt erred only in excess of hot colour; otherwise, the last is one of the master’s most precious drawings, and worth a legion of fruit-pieces, delightful as they are. An even greater flower-painter than W. Hunt is represented here so perfectly that his rose-leaves seem crisp, dewy, scent-laden, with petals still crumpled from the sheath,—a perfect picture; we mean W. Holland in *Roses* (60), belonging to Mr. Quilter. Observe, by the same, *Welsh Glen* (7).—By W. Hunt we have likewise Mr. Leaf’s *Kitchen Interior* (53), Mr. Quilter’s one of the many versions of *Too Hot* (120), and *Boy Blowing Bubbles* (124).—Mr. Pocock’s *Boy with a Candle* (208), and others.—Mr. A. Frisby’s *Young England* (9), a boy standing on rocks by the sea, with a fishing-boat of cork in his hand, is delicious in tone and colour.—By D. Cox are many fine examples, deriving mainly, however, from his later period in Art, the day of vigorous “blots” and superb effects, rather than from that part of his life when he wrought with clearness, and exquisite precision. Among these are Mr. Levy’s *Changing Pastures* (28),



Mr. Drake's *Powis Castle* (34), and the magnificent *Ulverston Sands* (45). In one frame are four treasures, worth a king's ransom, if brain and art are precious; it is numbered 60, and belongs to Mr. Quilter, who sends also four other jewels, in frame No. 61.—Here are Mr. Ellis's superb *Cader Idris* (72) and *Welsh Landscape* (159), and Mr. Burton's fine *Fern Gatherers* (165).—Mr. F. Powell's *Sundown at Sea, after a Storm* (30), belongs to Mr. P. Hewett, and, apart from the too apparent woolliness of its sky, is perfect as a study of deep-green sea, with waves subsiding but still vexed; the water is wonderfully modelled.—Mr. H. G. Hine is well represented by the lovely *Gravesend* (33), a gray and tenderly-painted picture, and, even better, by *A Calm* (101), which shows, looking west, Eastbourne, in a deliciously pearly tone.—Mr. J. F. Lewis's *The School, Cairo* (39), differs from the last, as carbuncles and emeralds differ from opals.

One of the pictures which will attract most attention here is that by Mr. Rossetti, a half-length of a luxurious dame, superbly clad and magnificently coiffured, *La Bionda del Balcone* (40); this, although mannered and comparatively unimportant as a production of an artist of the highest rank, deserves profound study; its intense suggestiveness of expression and features, the masterly treatment of its forms, not unchallengeable however in drawing, its gorgeous and potent but subdued wealth of tones and tints, make it irresistible by painters, an echo of poets' thoughts.—Profound is the contrast between this and Mr. Boyce's painting of that desolate cat-haunted nook which appears in *Where Bridewell Stood* (50). The poetic feeling which enables an observer to enter into the spirit of the one will find a charm in the other. Observe Mr. Boyce's *View at Wotton* (104).—There is here a noble series of drawings, of late date, by Turner, including Mr. Quilter's *Geneva* (224), *Reichenfels* (221), *Cassiobury* (225), *Tomb of C. Metella* (226), *Thun* (227), and *Ramah* (228). The other works consist of drawings by Dewint, Prout, Mr. F. W. Burton, the face of whose *Jostephane* (186) is imperfectly drawn, but intensely pathetic in expression, and Greek in grace; by Mdlle. R. Bonheur, Mr. S. Palmer, F. Danby, W. Mulready, Sir E. Landseer, and many more of inferior merits.

#### SALE OF WILLIAM BEWICK'S WORKS.

For the edification of those readers who may have, not without profit, read Haydon's 'Autobiography,' or rather those portions of it which have been allowed to appear, we may record the end of a career in Art, which was begun with considerable promise, and, during the early part of its course, continued with not a little spirit. The following is a list of the prices obtained on the 9th and 10th inst. for some noteworthy items at the sale, by Messrs. Watson & Bowman, of Darlington, in Haughton House, Haughton-le-Skerne, of the artistic remains of William Bewick, Haydon's handsome pupil, a "youth of genius" in more senses than one, who concluded a not unhappy life in June 1866, in the seventieth year of his age. A large number of fine artistic works, such as a portfolio of Bewick's woodcuts of birds, beasts and fishes, were sold for trifles, e.g., this lot went at 5s. 9d., while, on the other hand, a portfolio of L. Haghe's sketches sold for 5 guineas. 34 plates by Hollar sold for 6s.; 3, after Vandyck, for 2s. 3d.; Hollar's 'Seasons,' 5s. 6d.; 10, by the same, after Holbein, 6s. 6d. As these appear to have been actually the property of the artist, who knew good things, these prices require no comment. Certain paintings, variously ascribed to Lucas Giordano, Titian, Pordenone, Jan Steen, and others were sold at very small sums; a copy, by Bewick, after 'The Three Maries,' by Carracci, obtained 50 guineas; another copy, 'St. Jerome,' by Correggio, at Parma, 12l.; a sketch, by Morland, 4l. 15s. A series of chalk drawings, portraits, by Bewick, of notabilities of his youth and manhood, recording his practice of portrait-painting, is more interesting; they sold as follows:—Prof. Wilson, 14s.; James Hogg, 9s.; MacCulloch, political economist, 9s.; Lord Norbury, 21s.; H. Mackenzie, the "Man of Feeling," 11s.; Capt. B. Hall, 8s.; Thompson, of Dudding-

stone, 15s.; Sir J. Malcolm, 11s.; George Coombe, 7s.; W. H. Curran, 17s.; Sir W. Allan, 11s.; the Rev. C. R. Maturin, of "barrel-organ" fame, 38s.; Sir W. Scott, taken at Abbotsford, 7l.; W. Hazlitt, 42s.; Lord Jeffrey, 31s.; Sir J. Sinclair, 21s.; Hon. A. Grant, 36s.; Lady Morgan, 13s.; S. Knowles, 2s. 9d.; Liston, 50s.; P. Nasmyth, 9s.; Sir D. Brewster, 10s. 6d.; Sir W. Hooker, 9s.; W. S. Lander, done in Florence, 1826, 30s.; J. Clint, 9s. 6d.; D. O'Connell, 10s. A landscape, in oil, ascribed to Wilson, sold for 16l. 10s.; a portrait, by Bewick, of Maclise, 5l. 10s. Bewick's drawings of the Prophets and Sibyls by Michael Angelo, executed in the Sistine for Sir T. Lawrence, by whom they were destined for the National Gallery, 1826. These copies are works of very great merit, prepared for a purpose, baffled by Lawrence's death, the execution of which, we trust, will not remain much longer in abeyance, i.e., the illustration of great masters by means of fine copies of their triumphs. The Sibyls, Persian, Erythrean, Cumæan, Delphic and Libican, cartoons, half-size, sold for 6l. 10s. each. The Prophets, cartoons, half-size, Joel, Isaiah, Zachariah, Daniel, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, 6l. 10s. each. Six finished copies in oil, one-fourth size, the Cumæan and Delphic Sibyls, 6l. 10s. each; the Libican Sibyl, 8l. 10s.; the Prophets—Daniel, 5 gs., Jeremiah, 13l. 10s., and Ezekiel, 6l. 10s.; David before Saul, large, unfinished original, by Bewick, 2 gs.

#### Fine-Art Gossip.

THE private view of the Winter Exhibition of the Society of Painters in Water-Colours will take place on Saturday, the 26th inst. The Gallery of the Society will be opened to the public on the following Monday.

THE death has recently been announced of Miss Laura Herford, a lady to whose memory a tribute is due for the useful work she performed for her fellow-women in opening to them, as Art-Students, advantages which they had not previously enjoyed. Lord Lyndhurst, in a speech at a Royal Academy dinner, spoke of the advantages offered by the Academy Schools to "all Her Majesty's subjects." Miss Herford thereupon addressed a letter to him, in which she pointed out that ladies were not admitted to these schools; and this led to representations to Sir Charles Eastlake, and to interviews with him, which, together with a circular addressed to all the members of the Academy, petitioning for the admission of women-students, and signed by numerous lady-artists, eventually gained the object which Miss Herford had at heart. No rule against their admission existed, and what was needed was that a lady candidate should send a drawing, and thus get the question brought before the Council. This Miss Herford did: the question was discussed, and ultimately decided in her favour, and she entered on her seven years' studentship. The opening thus made has been beneficial to those lady-students—(amounting, in the ten years which have since elapsed, to about forty in number)—who have followed her in the Schools of the Academy. By this instance of unselfish work she will be remembered by many beyond the circle of her personal friends.

NOTWITHSTANDING the assertions of the Prussians, that very little damage was done to the Cathedral of Strasburg during their late bombardment of the unarmoured portion of the city, it now appears that such great ravages were effected that the architect estimates the cost of repairing them at 1,500,000 f.; "the fabric being far more injured than might be concluded from a superficial examination." The damage done to the picture gallery by Prussian shot and shell amounts to a quarter of a million of francs; the loss of the library, with its manuscripts and many precious volumes, is inestimable and irreparable; the burnt contents of the picture gallery are estimated at nearly half a million of francs. The total injury inflicted upon the city, without regard to those portions which, being military, are liable to operations of war as allowed in civilized countries, is estimated at between fifty and sixty millions of francs.

THE Holbein Society announces the completion of the third of its series of fac-simile reprints: 'The Mirror of Maestrie,'—a work of great rarity, the photoliths of which have been taken from almost the only perfect copy known to exist; with a brief review of the English emblem-books which preceded 'The Mirror of Maestrie'; annotations on the armorial bearings and noble personages, and notices of similar works, especially those from which the fac-simile illustrative plates are taken. Edited by the Rev. Henry Green, M.A., and James Croston.

THE following letter speaks for itself:— With reference to the paragraph in your impression of the 12th inst., stating that the exhibition of pictures for the benefit of the distressed peasantry of France would probably be held in the Royal Academy, I have to inform you that the President and Council of that institution, while expressing their deep sympathy with the objects of the proposed Exhibition, have informed my committee that the rules of the institution do not admit of their compliance with the proposal.

AUGUSTUS L. CHETWODE, Hon. Sec."

HERR H. J. FRIED, a Bavarian artist, has died at Munich.

#### MUSIC

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY. Exeter Hall.—Conductor, Sir MICHAEL COSTA.—THE THIRTY-NINTH SEASON, 1870-1, will COMMENCE on FRIDAY NEXT, November 25, with HANDEL'S Oratorio, *JUDAS MACCABEUS*.—Principal Vocalists: Madame Vanzini, Miss Vinta, Madame Patey, Mr. Vernon Rigby, Mr. M. Smith and Signor Foli. Tickets, 3s., 5s., and Stalls, 10s. 6d. Subscriptions for Ten Concerts:—Stalls, Three Guineas; Reserved Seats, Two Guineas. Office, No. 6, in Exeter Hall, open from 10 till 5 daily (Saturdays, 10 till 2); also on Friday Evenings, from 7 till 10 o'clock.

#### DRAMATISTS OF THE DAY.

MR. T. W. ROBERTSON.

THE other night I was at the St. James's Theatre. The bill of the play at that house is a curiosity. After announcing that a new comedy, by Mr. T. W. Robertson, was in preparation, it instructs the reader that what he is about to see is called 'Fernande,' and was "written by M. Victorien Sardou, who has been appropriately styled the Robertson of France." This information startled me. I could think of no resemblance between the "teacup-and-saucer" dramas I had seen presented at the Prince of Wales's Theatre and the brilliant plays of the Frenchman. As, however, I had not been to Tottenham Street since the piece now being performed there was placed on the stage, I thought it was possible Mr. Robertson might have taken a new line. The next night I saw 'M.P.', the latest production of the Robertson of England, and found it to be as thin and meagre as any of its predecessors. The best parts are nearly on a level with the worst chapters of the most carelessly-written of Mr. Trollope's novels. Experience and extended observation do not seem to benefit the writer. As he was in 'Society,' so he was in 'Ours,' in 'Caste,' in 'Play,' in 'School'; and so he is in 'M.P.' To see one is to see all. A poor gentleman in contrast with a rich upstart, is the theme of 'M.P.' The foundation of the subject is well laid; the stages of dramatic development are successfully reached; and the capacity and capability of each actor is utilized to the utmost. But of the higher qualities of dramatic literature there are only the faintest traces. We miss the elaborate situations for which "the Robertson of France" is noted; there is a lack of action; and the author's estimate of nature and character is false. Yet, as each of my readers who is also a reader of what is called dramatic criticism well knows, lack of action is compensated by wit and humorous felicities of dialogue. Unex-

pected repartees and sly retorts are the characteristics of Mr. Robertson. I waited for the smart sayings of which I had heard much; but I heard nothing above what is occasionally found in country papers under the heading 'Varieties.' A young Quakeress says to her lover: "I cannot tell thee because thou art not a maiden"; upon which he replies, "Well, consider me a maiden." I looked round to see if this was brilliant, and found others looking with the same object. Two people in the stalls giggled; another thought if he did not giggle he might be marked as a man who could not understand wit, and he giggled too; then other people giggled; and I registered the observation as an example of brilliant repartee. The same lovers go on a moonlight excursion to see "Ophelia's willow"; and as they are obviously making their way in the contrary direction, the lady ventures to hazard the conjecture that her companion is taking her the wrong way. Then the lover reassures the maiden with the remark, "Oh, it looks better from a distance." This secured general laughter. Everybody for some time had been expecting something good, and when the good thing came they appreciated it. Another repartee was equally well received. The lover, looking affectionately at the young lady by his side, propounded the query, "Suppose it were now night?" and received the sensible reply, "Then it would be dark." But he was equal to the occasion. With a languishing look he exclaims, "I wish it were." This rejoinder raised a burst of laughter.

There is another pair of lovers in the play, who say even smarter things. Cecilia Duncombe (well personated by Miss Marie Wilton) is discussing marriage with her future husband, and expresses her opinion that "it is a pity courtship ended in marriage." He, thereupon, is puzzled, and asks why? She answers promptly, "Because it would be much better that marriage ended in courtship."

Mr. Robertson's love-making has been highly lauded by the press, and a scene in 'Society' had much effect in giving popularity to that play. The author is sagacious enough to withhold from publication all he has since written, so I am unable to quote from his later works. 'Society,' however, is before me, and I will reproduce part of the love-scene. The lovers are together in "a square at the West-end. Weeping ash over a rustic chair, trees, shrubs, walks, &c.; lights in some of the windows, &c., street lamps." The time is nine o'clock at night; and the lovers expect to be interrupted by the party assembled at the neighbouring mansion, who, as we all know, according to invariable practice at the West-end, would leave the dinner-table to get a breath of air in the square:—

MAUD. Time to go?

SIDNEY. No! What's that?

MAUD. Some trimmings I'm making for our fancy fair.

SIDNEY. What colour is it? Scarlet?

MAUD. Magenta.

SIDNEY. Give it to me.

MAUD. What nonsense.

SIDNEY. Won't you?

MAUD. I've brought something else.

SIDNEY. For me?

MAUD. Yes.

SIDNEY. What?

MAUD. These (*producing small case which Sidney opens*).

SIDNEY. Sleeve-links?

MAUD. Now, which will you have, the links or the ribbon?

SIDNEY (*after reflection*). Both.

MAUD. You avaricious creature!

SIDNEY (*putting the ribbons near his heart*). It's not in the power of words to tell you how I love you. Will you be mine?

MAUD. Sidney!

I will not deny that this is true to life—everything is true to life which represents lovers as idiots; but I cannot agree with the dramatic critics who pronounce such dialogue to be vivacious and amusing, delicate and vigorous. Another passage from the same play, which I remember went with good effect, is the following. Tom Stylus, a journalist, who is alone in the parlour of the "Owl's Roost," speaks:—

"Love is an awful swindler; always drawing upon Hope, who never honours his draughts; a sort of whining beggar, continually moved on by the maternal police; but 'tis a weakness to which the wisest of us are subject, a kind of manly measles which the flesh is heir to, particularly when the flesh is heir to nothing else; even I have felt the divine damnation—I mean emanation. But the lady united herself to another, which was a very good thing for me, and anything but a misfortune for her. Ah! happy days of youth. Oh! flowering fields of Runnington-cum-Wapshot."

Mr. Robertson has not confined himself to the production of this sort of thing. He has tried other departments of the drama, but, to his own surprise probably, with no great success. 'David Garrick,' the same story as that which was dramatized for Mr. Hermann Vezin under the title 'Dr. Davy,' was his first play of any importance. In 1867 his realistic drama, 'Shadow Tree Shaft,' was produced at the Princess's, and failed. 'A Rapid Thaw,' at the St. James's, was another failure, and was withdrawn after a few days. 'For Love,' at the Holborn, also failed. 'Dreams' was a failure at the Gaiety, and 'The Nightingale' was a failure at the Adelphi. Outside of the Prince of Wales's Theatre he is unlucky. It seems he has been endowed by Nature with a special function of keeping the little house in Tottenham Street supplied with plays, most of them having a word of one syllable as title. It is clear this house has had incessant prosperity since he has joined the management. Each of the "new and original comedies," not excepting what was written in Germany, has had a run of success. But how to account for this is a puzzle. If we examine the first of the series, 'Society,' and the last, 'M.P.,' in which we look for the result of matured reflection and improved execution, we do not find explanation. They are all in the same key, and have all the same defects. In the first, for example, nobody will pretend that Mr. Robertson presents us with a picture of what is called "society." Of course, life among people of the highest rank is, in essentials, the life of the most unrefined. Lords and ladies love and hate, and have ambition, and grow hungry and sleepy just as the most uncultured people. But Mr. Robertson's pictures of such life—obviously the result of reflected knowledge derived from books and his own inner consciousness—are altogether wanting in those slight touches which signify knowledge from within. These might be of slight consequence, but it is these which give verisimilitude to the representation. Without them, the picture may as well be labelled "Cornhill" as "Grosvenor Square." The behaviour of Lady Ptarmigan, in the last scene

of 'Society,' is a libel. She has just been encouraging a rich and vulgar suitor for the hand of her niece. She has sent him to the young lady with the direction to "strike while the iron is hot." A few minutes after, having heard that a discarded suitor of higher rank had unexpectedly succeeded to a fortune and a title, she pretends ignorance of the arrangement just made, and that she had been only joking, and thought the man she had deceived had also been joking. In 'M.P.,' breaches of good manners continually present themselves. In one scene, a young lady goes up to another young lady, who has arrived at the house as a visitor, and *feels* her to see if she is real; "for," says she, "you look like biscuit-china." In his treatment, Mr. Robertson does not compensate for the deficiencies inherent in the subject-matter of the play. His knowledge as an actor enables him to give a sort of artistic construction to the piece, and he has the high merit of bringing on his characters at the right moment. But his desire to be smart spoils him. His wit does not suit the occasion—or rather, it suits any occasion. It has reference to nothing in the play, and I cannot correlate it with what follows, or has gone before. It has been elaborated, and might have been inserted in any of his pieces, or might have been delivered by any of his characters. In 'M.P.,' Mr. Robertson is hard upon burlesque writings. A young fool, who aspires to be an actor, is the medium of some harsh criticism on such works. I do not object to the criticism; but every intelligent person who listens will admit that it is misplaced here. The youth might as well have discussed the Eastern Question, or palæontology, or the potato-blight. Satire on such a subject, moreover, comes ungracefully from Mr. Robertson, whose puns and other verbal contortions in this piece, where they are unsuitable, are inferior to what we hear in burlesque, where they are appropriate. The heroine, in canvassing during an election, secures some votes by kissing certain of the electors. She is asked what were the men? whereupon we find they were "plumbers and glaziers of the *puttiest* description." The style of all these dramas may be known from the incidental quotations I have made.

Mr. Robertson is a realist; the artificial and the ideal he eschews. Just as another dramatist introduces on the stage the real cab in which he has ridden to the theatre, so Mr. Robertson gives us the real conversation he has heard at the "Owl's Roost," or in the West End Square where people come out at night to enjoy the evening breeze under a weeping ash in front of their houses. I cannot say we do not want this represented on the stage, for it finds an appreciative public; I can only say it is lamentable that there are people who pay to hear other men say behind footlights what they hear in their own houses. Any one of the pieces, if written as a tale, and sent to a cheap periodical, would fetch a few pounds; represented on the stage, it is richly remunerative. Mr. Robertson is wise, therefore, if he confines his talents to the production of "teacup-and-saucer dramas"; in this line he is supreme. The theatrical critics who first told the world that 'Society' was a work of genius, and that it drew fashionable audiences, now endeavour to persuade us that Mr. Robert-



son has disciples. This must be meant as a joke. Mr. Robertson is unique. Q.

'ST. PETER.'

2, Manchester Square, Nov. 15, 1870.

I BEG to enclose you three cheques, vouching for the amount, 75*l.*, paid by me to Mr. Chorley, which Mr. Chorley denies having received. I also enclose you two letters from the Birmingham Festival Committee: one requesting to know the subject of the Oratorio proposed to them by me, together with his title; the other acknowledging the receipt of the libretto from me. I have been accused of misrepresenting these transactions; but when Mr. Chorley has satisfied himself, by examination of the enclosed documents, that he has been under a misapprehension, I am led to presume that he will, as a gentleman, withdraw and apologize for the terms applied to one whose word has never until now been called in question, and who feels deeply pained to be obliged thus publicly to support its integrity.

I hereby solemnly declare that the original agreement with Mr. Chorley was, that 50*l.* should be paid for his entire work, and that the surplus, 25*l.*, which I paid him by cheque on the 20th of January last, which he accepted, and sent in his own name for the Birmingham Hospital (though in his letter, as you have been informed, he declared he would send it "anonymously"), was entirely an oversight on my part, the fact of my having already paid him the second instalment of 25*l.* having escaped my memory. I will give Mr. Chorley the credit of believing that the fact had escaped his memory as well as mine; and this, notwithstanding the tone of his letter to the *Athenæum* of November 12, in which he dares, in reference to me, to use the word "contempt."

Were this not a case in which my honour is concerned, I should not have troubled you again in a matter which has already unduly occupied your valuable space, more especially since Mr. Chorley has not refuted one single statement in the letter which you did me the favour to publish on October 29; but, under the circumstances, I must demand of you, as an act of justice, to allow me to set myself right in the estimation of your readers; and as I have documents to establish the truth of every word I have advanced, I appeal to your known impartiality to publish this letter in your next issue. After this, I shall not trouble you again; for should Mr. Chorley proceed further in the matter, I would seek for redress elsewhere.

JULES BENEDICT.

[We cannot publish any more letters on this question; but, in justice to Mr. Chorley, we must state that the earliest of the three cheques forwarded to us by Mr. Benedict is drawn in favour of Mr. Chorley or bearer, and is not indorsed by Mr. Chorley: it bears the date of April 23, 1858.]

BEETHOVEN'S SYMPHONIES.

THE Pastoral Symphony is described by Berlioz as a design by Michael Angelo and as a *paysage* by Poussin. And yet this sublime work has been vividly attacked by purists and by pedants, as being too descriptive. Beethoven had no right, it has been contended, to indulge in imitative imagery; he might be permitted to be suggestive in depicting the calm of a country life, but he was not justified in describing a storm through the agency of his power of instrumentation, and the birds of the woods were not to sing in orchestration; and as for the cuckoo, it was simply an abomination to introduce the cry through the wood instruments. Such is bigotry in music! Such is the tone assumed by some writers, who have no notion of sweet sounds unless they are conveyed in mathematical proportion—dry and ponderous. The world has decided the question in favour of Beethoven; and his nightingale will sing to the end of all time, despite the puerilities of his detractors. Whenever and wherever the Symphony is heard, its sensational effects are overwhelming. It is not necessary that the 'Pastorale' should be listened to in the opening spring, in the

warmth of summer, in the genial glow of autumn; but in the severest winter, when even the snow is on the ground or the mists are thick and heavy, the strains of the glorious Symphony fall on the ear like gleams of sunshine. Its learning is as profound as its eloquence is powerful; it is one constant flow of delicious melody; and the ear is so captivated that the mind's eye conjures up the realities of the descriptive scenery and incidents, and the musician becomes the painter as well as the poet. The rustic festivity is dancing before the auditory, so vivid is the notation, and the far-off-sounding thunderclap transports us to the locality where the war of the elements is to break forth with the prodigious power which Beethoven alone possessed. And then that delicious *finale*, so replete with the subdued calm of intense happiness, for "still waters run deep" in the portraiture of profound feeling. To the musician, the technical analyses present inexhaustible themes for study and admiration; to the uneducated listener, the entire Symphony is like music on the waters—so grateful, so soothing, so melodious, so inspiring, and yet so exciting. Its execution by the Crystal Palace band, at the seventh of the Beethoven celebrations, was, so far as regards the stringed instruments, irreproachable; they played as one man under the beat of the *bâton*: the wind were not so certain in their attacks. In the band of Herr Manns, there are mixed elements; there are players who are timeless,—there are players who are toneless,—and there are even executants who are both timeless and toneless. But there was evidently a conscientious desire in all to do justice to the stupendous work, and the conductor was entitled to the hearty cheering which greeted its conclusion. The other Beethoven item was the earliest Pianoforte Concerto in *B* flat, Op. 19, marked No. 2, but which really was No. 1. It was Mr. Franklin Taylor who was charged with its interpretation, and ably did he acquit himself of a task which is by no means light. He has a remarkably fine touch, and he has a nimble finger. As a Leipzig scholar, his reading was naturally German, and more dash and sensibility might perhaps have been infused, but the great praise which the young artist is entitled to is his self-abnegation. To select from seven Concertos the weakest of the series, because it had been only once before executed in this country, shows that Mr. Taylor loves his art; he preferred to introduce an unknown composition because it was Beethoven's, rather than to choose another of the seven Concertos, in which the powers of the player would have more easily won the sympathy and suffrages of an auditory. In the *B* flat *solo*, as in all the earliest productions of Beethoven, are to be traced the Haydn and Mozart influences; except in the rollicking gaiety of the *rondo finale*, the marks of the master mind are but few. The other instrumental items in the programme were two Overtures, the 'Zauberflöte' of Mozart, and the 'Masaniello' of Auber. Mr. Vernon Rigby sang the lover's plaint from Gounod's charming opera, 'La Colombe,' to perfection, and was artistic in the 'Dalla sua Pace,' the generally omitted air of Don Ottavio when 'Don Juan' is given. There was a sad exhibition made by a continental *artiste*, who once occupied but a secondary position at the Italian Opera House in Paris, and it suggests the inquiry whether the Crystal Palace managers ever have a private hearing before they introduce new singers.

MONDAY POPULAR CONCERTS.

THE foundation of these musical entertainments dates from February, 1859. The twelfth season has now been commenced, and auspiciously too, for it is under the banner of Beethoven that the directors claim the continuous patronage of the public, that is, of those who love classical chamber compositions. In the ordinary sense of the word, the title of "Popular Concerts" seems misapplied; but, with a firmness of purpose and an intelligence in the selection of good music, "popular" is now synonymous with "classical," so far as the programmes in St. James's Hall are concerned. It has been a curious study to watch the growing interest

taken in these concerts by the shilling visitors; from the beginning they listened patiently—a good sign always,—but gradually they became interested; their applause was more frequent and animated, and, finally, the "encore" movement, which short-sighted people so deprecate, became chronic. It is not at all uncommon to hear re-demands in one evening either for an *adagio*, a *scherzo*, an *allegro*, as the case may be, and the masses gathered in the Hall evidently look upon the vocal selections as altogether secondary. They have attended to hear the noblest specimens of the great writers for the chamber, that is, for the pieces which are denominated sonatas, duos, trios, quartets, quintets, septets and ottets, chiefly for stringed and the pianoforte,—ever and anon, the wind instruments being called in as a *bonne bouche*. Here effects are produced without the crash of a full orchestra; but with such composers as Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven and Mendelssohn, masses of sound are not required to evidence their genius. In the early stages of the Monday Popular Concerts the selections were confined to but few masters, but the programmes have been gradually enlarged; Schumann and Schubert are now frequently cited, and the works of Dussek, Clementi, and other ancient musicians, have been successfully ransacked to show what Art was, as in comparison with what it is. This successful attempt to popularize the highest order of music has merited the support it has received, and so long as the management is continued on the same basis, there is little fear of any reactionary feeling on the part of the general public. The Beethoven pieces on the 14th inst., the opening concert, were the string Quartets in *F* major, Op. 18, No. 1, and in *G* major, Op. 18, No. 2; two Sonatas, one in *E* flat, Op. 7, for pianoforte, and the other in *F* major, Op. 5, No. 1, associated with the violoncello. To mention that the players were Madame Norman-Neruda, Herr Ries, Mr. Zerbini, and Signor Piatti for the stringed, and Herr Halle for the pianoforte, will suffice to show that the readings were thoroughly orthodox. The lady violinist is distinguished by her exquisite finish, truthful tone, and remarkable precision, and these fine qualities make up for a deficiency of power in her bow-arm and her delicate manipulation. Mdlle. Clara Doria (who is really an English lady, a daughter of the composer, Mr. John Barnett, a name so honourably distinguished in operatic annals), sang two songs by Beethoven, 'Penitence,' and the well-known 'Know'st thou the Land' of Goethe. She sings like a true artist, who requires no foreign name to entitle her to distinction. She had the advantage of being accompanied by Mr. Benedict, one of the best of accompanists for singers.

Musical Gossip.

AT the thirty-eighth annual general meeting of the Sacred Harmonic Society, on last Wednesday evening, Mr. Thomas Brewer, Honorary Secretary from 1832, the year of the formation of the Association, was elected President, *vice* Mr. J. N. Harrison, deceased. The post of Treasurer, so long filled by the late Mr. A. R. Bowley, will not be occupied by Mr. Daniel Hill, and Mr. J. F. Puttick was nominated Honorary Secretary. The Report of the Committee contained feeling references to the loss sustained by the Society in the deaths of Messrs. Harrison and Bowley. The season will commence next Friday, with Handel's 'Judas Maccabeus.'

MR. HENRY PHILLIPS, who was the original singer of the bass part in Mendelssohn's 'St. Paul,' when produced in Liverpool, is now a resident in London, giving lessons in singing.

AUBER'S 'Fra Diavolo' will be produced at the Gaiety, with Mr. Santley as the brigand chief. The part, ostensibly composed for a tenor, is within his compass, for the same reason as *Zampa* is, because the original singer, M. Chollet, was more of a baritone than a tenor.

MADAME VIARDOT will sing in 'The Messiah' for the first time in London at the Christmas performances of Handel's 'Sacred Oratorio' at Exeter Hall. She will sing, too, in the course of next

week, at a concert of unusual interest,—the one to be given in aid of "The Ladies' Refugee Benevolent Fund," and with musical companions no less distinguished than M. Faure, Signor Gardoni, Madame Calderon, Mdle. Selvi, refugee artists, driven here, like herself, by stress of weather—a stringed quartett, including M. Hammer, first violin, who made his *début* at the recent German Concerts for the Sick and Wounded, and M. Gounod, who will accompany some of his own music.

ROSSINI'S 'Messe Solennelle,' a work inferior to the 'Stabat Mater,' was given last Wednesday evening in St. James's Hall, Mr. Henry Leslie's choir being employed, and he being the conductor. The novelty in the performance was that the original accompaniments by the composer of pianoforte, harmonium and harps were played, the effect of which, in a large hall, was monotonous and depressing. The chief singers were Fräulein Tietjens, Madame Trebelli-Bettini, Signori Bettini and Foli. The sacred Mass was followed by secular music, Italian and English, in which Mdle. Selvi (the lady tenor) and Signor Cotogni took part.

Mr. A. S. SULLIVAN has been in Edinburgh and Glasgow, directing performances of his 'Prodigal Son,' a work which ought to be heard in Exeter Hall.

VERILY our neighbours are an odd people. Pressed on terribly as they have been, and threatened with fearful calamities to come by this miserable war (let the struggle end as it may), the Parisians cannot be kept quiet without their dramatic and musical entertainments; and these, for the moment, take the mild and mournful form of theatrical and musical performances in the daytime, lit up by a penitential show of candles, and gone through by actors and artists, not in costume, but in secular mourning habiliments. Nothing stranger nor, to our thinking, more ghastly of its kind than this is to be found in the annals of history.

THE musical performance for the inauguration of the Hall of Arts and Science, on the 1st of May, next year, will be under the direction of Sir Michael Costa, who will compose a work for the occasion,—something, of course, in the shape of an Ode or Cantata. The largest organ in the world will be heard at this ceremonial, and its qualities will, no doubt, be tested in turn by the first native as well as foreign organists during the International Exhibition season. It is proposed also to secure the services of several famed military bands from the Continent. The Sacred Harmonic Society will also give evening performances of Oratorio on the grandest scale.

MDLLE. SESSI is announced to appear next week at Covent Garden Theatre, the attraction of the new French singer, Mdle. Leon-Duval, not having been found sufficient. Of the execution of 'Fidelio' and 'Semiramide' it would be difficult to pronounce which was the worse; and the powers of Mdle. Tietjens and Mesdames Trebelli-Bettini and Sinico, great as they are, are not strong enough to make up for the defects of a bad *ensemble*.

MDLLE. TIETJENS, Madame Patey, M. Nordblom and Herr Stockhausen will sing the four chief characters in Mr. F. H. Cowen's forthcoming cantata, 'The Rose-Maiden.'

A PROFESSOR of Music, Mr. G. W. Martin, has issued an address offering himself for election on the London School Board. Mr. Martin is the Director and Conductor of the National Choral Society, and he dates from Exeter Hall, claiming as grounds for the votes of the city of Westminster that he was eight years in a training college, that he has been actively engaged in the cause of National Education, and as a lecturer has had under tuition 4,000 schoolmasters and schoolmistresses, now employed in national work, not only in the metropolis but in all parts of the United Kingdom and the colonies.

FRÄULEIN MILA ROEDER is favourably mentioned as a new *Rosina*, in Rossini's 'Barber of Seville,' at Berlin. Herr Woworsky was the *Alma-viva*; Herr Fricke *Bartolo*; Herr Salamon *Basilio*;

and Herr Schelper *Figaro*. Wagner's 'Rienzi' and 'Lohengrin' are constantly played in the Prussian capital, with Herr Niemann in the tenor parts. The Joachim quartett party includes Herrn Schiever, De Ahna, and Mühlner. In Dresden, Wagner's 'Meistersinger' and 'Tannhäuser,' Gluck's 'Iphigenia in Tauris,' and Meyerbeer's 'Huguenots' are in the ascendant, on the principle that "extremes meet." Frau Kainz-Prause is the *prima donna*, Herr Jäger the tenor, Herr Scaria the basso. Herr Remenyi is the first violinist of Peth. Vienna boasts that the capital is strong in tenors, having Herr Adams (English), Herr Walter, Herr Müller, Herr Pirk, and Herr Labatt; to this list the name of Herr Beck, as the finest acting baritone of the age, should be added. Miss Hauck (the American) pleases the Viennese.

Mr. Chorley writes:—"I acknowledge with thanks a correction in the *Orchestra* of yet another omission from the list of Balfe's operas, in addition to the one by myself corrected last week. The work in question is 'The Puritan's Daughter,' of which not a single character, note of music, or scene recurs to me. My corrector is pleased to call me to task on the occasion. He might, perhaps, have considered how far the utter want of local character and colour in all the 'furniture-music' of Balfe's inferior operas may contain within itself explanations of 'slips of the pen' in a catalogue drawn at a moment's warning, were the same ever so numerous as mine. It is too late, or too early, to claim the honours of serious fame for one who was professedly a facile manufacturer; richly paid as such, but as such early forgotten. In illustration of what was said in my former notice, regarding his utter levity in choice of subject and selection of text, I may mention that when Her Majesty came of age Balfe was commissioned to write a *revue*, or rather *aubade* (as they say in France), to be performed at Kensington. He applied to me for words. I hesitated; not seeing clearly what could be made in the least worthy of such an occasion, with the chance of anything like novelty. 'I'll tell you, my dear fellow,' was his reply; 'six voices—Peace, Plenty and Justice, Britannia, Caledonia and Hibernia.' So it was with Balfe throughout his musical career; and the issue thereof may be appealed to, in confirmation, or reversal, of the character I have recently offered. Let me say, in conclusion, that not the slightest literary or musical dissension ever took place between us; and that I never thought, nor indeed wished, to attempt an opera-book for him. But I cannot, and never will, accept the truth of the worn-out phrase 'De mortuis' in respect to matters of Art; nor can conceive why honest discussion of the works of the deceased can be misrepresented as a case of want of feeling or want of delicacy on the part of those who write for the day with reference to the future. There is plenty of *cypress* sentimentality in Kensal Green. The facts of private life and private virtue, of course, come into another category."

## DRAMA

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—EVERY EVENING will be presented the great Play, 'FERNANDE.' Messrs. Farren, Leeson, Lyn Rayne, Gaston Murray, and Lionel Brough; Mrs. Hermann Vezin, Miss Larkin, Miss Fannie Brough, Miss Sallie Turner, and Mrs. John Wood. To commence at 7, with 'TO OBLIGE BENSON,' by TOM TAYLOR. Eq.; 'FERNANDE' at 8 o'clock; at 10.30 a new Farce, 'CHRISTMAS EVE,' by C. S. CHETMAN, Esq. Messrs. Harry Cox, Dan Leeson, and Lionel Brough. Box Office 11 to 6. No fees.

## THE OPÉRA COMIQUE.

OF the class of parts in which, after her separation from M. Scribe and the Théâtre de Madame, Mdle. Déjazet obtained most signal success, *Richelieu* in 'Les Premières Armes de Richelieu' may be taken as a type. The piece, which was first played at the Palais Royal, in December, 1838, is one of the gayest and brightest that its authors, MM. Bayard and Dumanoir, alone or in collaboration, have produced; and its hero, the young Duke, is the most natural and life-like picture in the gallery of aristocratic young *roués* with which Mdle. Déjazet's recent reputation is associated. *Richelieu* is a close copy of *Cherubin* in the 'Mariage de Figaro.' He is of the same age, fifteen years, has the

same irresistible fancy for everything feminine, and the same dangerous mixture of timidity and indiscretion. But the possession of rank and dignity, and the habit of being received with attention and subservience by those around him, give him a measure of self-reliance such as Cherubin at a like age does not possess. For reasons of state, a marriage alliance has been contracted between the young Duke and *Diane de Nouailles*, his senior by three years. As soon as the ceremony is over, Richelieu is to be separated from his bride, and consigned to his tutor, to wait and occupy himself with studies until his twentieth year. But Richelieu, who has seen his bride, and bestowed on her the juvenile and not very flattering homage of his approbation, revolts at the conditions imposed, gives himself airs of manhood, and endeavours to win his wife by solicitations and vows. He is only laughed at as a boy, and flouted by all around him. He determines accordingly, at whatever cost, to vindicate his manhood.

Upon the not over-commendable means by which he accomplishes this object, it is not necessary to dwell. Suffice it to say, that when he has got the credit of two intrigues, has fought two duels, in both of which he is victor, and has given other unmistakable proofs of virility, his wife is moved by admiration for him, comes to him of her own accord, enabling him thus to win a most foolhardy bet he had made, and displays in his favour a contempt for maternal authority rare in any country, and exceptionally rare in France. Some clever but old-fashioned and improbable scenes are introduced during the progress of the plot, but the work, of which a not very successful version has been produced at the Haymarket, has no great literary or dramatic value. But for the acting of Mdle. Déjazet it could not have achieved a tithe of its actual popularity. Mdle. Déjazet is, however, made for the part, or rather the part is made for Mdle. Déjazet. Her *aplomb* and her power, absolutely unequalled, of delivering without offence words and points which in another actress would be vulgar and offensive, have rendered this rôle one of the most popular in her *répertoire*. Concerning Mdle. Déjazet's acting there is nothing to say but praise, and her singing is still what it was when it drew from her son, a musician, a *mot* worth a page of criticism: "Ma mère, tu chantes faux avec une justesse exquise." Adequate support was given by Mdle. Riel as *Diane de Nouailles*, M. Georges as the *Chevalier de Matignon*, and M. Lagrenay as the *Baron de Belle-Chasse*. Mdle. Riel is an actress of tact and intelligence. M. Georges is a clever and conscientious *jeune premier*; and M. Lagrenay, though not a *comique* of the first force, has some originality and much drollery. The entertainment opened with 'Le Passant,' an elogue by M. François Coppée, a young poet, some of whose recent productions have been crowned by the Academy. This piece, which is not very dramatic in character, was fairly spoken by Mdle. Legrand and Mdle. Therval. 'Le Chapeau d'un Horloger,' the original of the well-known farce, 'The Clockmaker's Hat,' was also performed.

## Dramatic Gossip.

THE whole of the companies disturbed by the recent action of the Middlesex magistrates have now found engagements. The 'Can-can' dancers of the Alhambra are at the Globe, the remainder of the ballet at the Standard, while the company at Highbury Barn, with the proprietor, Mr. Giovannelli, has migrated to the Alfred Theatre.

A NEW burlesque, by Mr. Burnand, was produced on Thursday evening at the Vaudeville.

A DRAMA called 'Joe Sterling; or, a Ragged Fortune,' has been produced at the Victoria, with Miss E. Farren in the part of its hero, a young mudlark. It is adapted from a tale by Mr. Greenwood.

A VERSION of 'The Old Curiosity Shop,' by Mr. Andrew Halliday, will be produced to-night at the Olympic; and Mr. Gilbert's fairy drama, 'The



Temple of Truth,' will be played the same evening at the Haymarket.

A DRAMA, by Mr. Hazlewood, entitled 'The Magic Whisper,' has been produced at the Britannia.

'NARCISSE' has been played at Christchurch, New Zealand. This piece is the property of Mr. Bandmann, and can only have been obtained by such proceedings as enabled Australian actors to give the version, also copyright, of 'Rip Van Winkle' as played by Mr. Jefferson. It is very regrettable to find at how low an ebb is honesty in things dramatic, whether the scene be England or the Antipodes.

THE *Rivista Europea* gives an amusing account of the failure of several dramatic novelties lately produced in Florence. The 'Amelia' of Prof. G. Marini was received with hisses by an irritated public; the 'Espiacione' of Dottor Guglielmi was laughed off the stage; 'La Febbre del Cuore' of Signor A. Archini and 'L'Eredità della Colpa' of Signor F. Lanza made the audience gape; the 'New Faust' (!) of Signor F. Pugno was received with yawns and ironical cheers; while the 'Principessa Invisibile' of Signor A. Scavini was hissed off the stage, amidst the laughter of the less demonstrative part of the audience. The *Rivista Europea*, while it deplores the present condition of the Italian stage, looks forward to the establishment of a National Theatre at Rome, which it expects will form a model for the theatres of the principal cities of Italy, and will gradually tend to the improvement and progress of Italian dramatic art.

MIDDLE JANAUSCHEK has played Deborah in Dr. Mosenthal's play of the same name, at the Brooklyn Academy of Music.

MR. AND MRS. CHARLES MATHEWS have terminated their engagement at Sydney, which throughout has been successful. For the benefit of Mrs. Mathews, portions of 'London Assurance,' and 'The School for Scandal' were given, with 'The Golden Fleece' and 'Who Killed Cock Robin?'

#### ANTIQUARIAN NOTES.

'Hamlet,' act iv. sc. 1.—In the *Athenæum* of the 22nd of October I see that Mr. Newton Crosland revives the question of the truthfulness of the reading of a line in 'Hamlet,'—

The cat will mew, and dog will have his day.

Mr. Crosland has no doubt that *day* is a misprint for *bay*, and seems to be of opinion that the "misprint" is the origin of what to him is a meaningless piece of silly slang. To most people the doubt he casts on this well-known and, I venture to say, well-understood old proverb, will be a surprise. Mr. Crosland, however, has made no new discovery: in the *Athenæum* of the 5th of September, 1868, Mr. B. Street put forward this identical conjecture, and on the 3rd of the following month your Correspondent "A. O. S." satisfactorily disposed of it by giving an extract from a letter from the Princess Elizabeth to her sister, Queen Mary,—"As a dogge hath a day, so may I, &c." Queen Mary died some six years before Shakespeare was born, and the earliest known edition of 'Hamlet' (1603) was not printed till after the death of Elizabeth. I have noted two other instances of the use of the proverb which may, perhaps, be interesting to some of your readers. In the Interlude entitled 'New Custom,' act ii. sc. 3, near the end, is the line—

Well, if it chance that a dogge hath a daye, &c.

This Interlude was first printed 1573—see 'Dodsley's Old Plays,' edit. 1744, vol. 1, p. 72. Ben Jonson also makes use of it in his 'Tale of a Tub,' act ii. sc. 1.—

A man hath his hour, and a dog his day.

According to Gifford, this play was written in 1633. This is later than 'Hamlet' no doubt, but Ben Jonson would scarcely have adopted a meaningless bit of slang.

P. A. DANIEL.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—C. D.—C. B. L.—P. W. S. M.—G. W. J.—J. S. C.—R. B. P.—J. W. H.—A. C. S.—received.  
Dr. J. G.—Forwarded to the Secretary of the Association, for publication in the *Transactions*.

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